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COLLECTIONS
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MAINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SECOND SERIES

DOCUMENTARY

HISTORY OF THE STATE OF MAINE

VOL. XX

CONTAINING

THE BAXTER MANUSCRIPTS

EDITED

By JAMES PHINNEY BAXTER, A. M., Litt. D.

**PUBLISHED BY THE MAINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, AIDED BY
APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE STATE**

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1914

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PREFACE

THIS volume brings us to the close of the American Revolution, and we now are introduced to the difficulties which faced our public men in their efforts to satisfy the demands made upon them by the sufferers in the war, and to preserve public order, a task which appalled some of our best statesmen and excited the cynical curiosity of foreign nations, who ridiculed the idea of ignorant farmers, fishermen and day laborers setting up and maintaining anything like a stable government. We have seen the result, an enduring monument to the cause of Popular Government.

JAMES PHINNEY BAXTER.

61 Deering Street,
November 3, 1914.

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE OF CONTENTS

			PAGE
1781	Nov. 10	Order to Pay John Stone and Wm. Grow, . . .	38
		Deposition of Joseph Hibbert,	38
	Nov. 15	Receipt of and Order in Favor of Geo. Randall, . . .	37
1782	March 1	Memorial Selectmen of Fryeburg and Re-	
		solve on same,	107
	April 20	Petition of William Taylor,	1
	April 22	William Grow to Edward Grow,	4
		Committee of York to General Court, . . .	4
		Petition Inhabitants St. Georges to General	
		Court,	5
		Resolve on Petition Robert Foster,	6
	April 23	A Short Acct of the Destruction of the	
		Town of Falmouth in October 1775,	406
	April 24	Directing Committee to Lay out Land,	7
	April 29	Resolve on Petition of Colonel Allan,	8
		Damages in & Near Camden in 1779,	408
		Petition of Town of Cape Elizabeth,	11
	May 3	Action on Petition of William Taylor,	9
		Appointment of Excise Deputies,	10
	May 6	Josiah Brewer to Richard Devens,	10
		Petition of Selectmen of Newcastle,	22
	May 7	Resolve on Petition of Town of Cape Elizabeth, . . .	13
	May 8	Deposition of John Linnekin,	13
		Resolve to Continue Post Between Ports-	
		mouth and Falmouth,	14
		Resolve Relating to War Stores &c,	15
		Petition of Inhabitants of Frenchman's Bay,	17
	May 9	Resolve on Foregoing Petition,	18
	May 18	Permission in Favor of Nathaniel Coffin,	19
		John Lane to the Governor,	19
	May 24	Petition of John Lane,	20
	May 29	Petition of Jacob Ludwig,	20
		Petition in Behalf of Town of Bristol,	21
		Petition of Inhabitants of Sudbere, Canada,	24
		Memorial of Lewis Fred ^k Delesdernier,	25
	June 4	Certificate in favor Aaron Babcock,	27
		Colonel Allan to the Governor,	28
	June 8	Resolve on Petition of John Lane,	30
		Petition of Elizabeth Hall,	32
		Resolve on Petition of Elizabeth Hall, et al,	31

			PAGE
1782	June 13	Memorial and Petition of Simon Frye, . . .	34
		Certificate of Auditing Com ^{tee} Late Board of War,	35
		Certificate in favor of Daniel Mitchell, . . .	36
	June 14	Resolve in favor John Stone and William Grow,	36
	June 15	Memorial of George Stillman,	39
		Petition of Inhab ^{ts} of Sterlington,	40
		Petition of Inhab ^{ts} of Fryeburg and Other Towns,	41
	June 17	Resolves on Petition of David Strout et als, . . .	42
		Petition David Strout et als Attached, . . .	44
		Memorial Simon Frye,	44
	June 18	Petition of Saml Sewall and Wife,	45
	June 20	Petition Juniper Barthiaume,	46
	June 21	Petition Selectmen of Warren,	47
		Resolve on Above,	48
	June 22	Resolve on Petition of Juniper Barthiaume, . . .	46
	June 24	Memorial Isaac Snow,	97
	June 24	Certificate from J. Pettingell Majr,	49
	June 26	Resolve in re Vincent, Indian Prisoner et als, . .	49
		Resolve in Behalf of Town of Fryeburg, . . .	50
	June 27	Resolve in favor Counties York, Cumber-land and Lincoln,	51
		Report of Committee on Claims,	51
		Certificate and Resolve Relating to Claims, . .	52
	July 1	Resolve on Petition James Avery,	52
		John Allan to Governor,	53
	July 2	Resolve on Petition of Fryeburg and Other Towns,	55
	July 3	Resolve Relating to Beef,	56
	July 4	Petition Nathl Bosworth,	56
	July 6	Certificate and Resolve in favor William McGlathry,	57
		Proclamation of George Third,	58
	Aug. 6	Joseph North to Governor,	59
		Sentence of Robt Douglass,	60
		Remittance of Sentence of Robt Douglass, . .	61
	Aug. 7	Certificate and Award in favor Joseph Reed, . .	62
	Aug. 10	George Washington to Governor,	63
		George Washington to Gov. Hancock,	63
		George Washington to Marquis De Vandreull,	64
	Aug. 10	Ezekiel Pattee to Governor,	67
	Aug. 13	William Lithgow to the Governor and Certificates,	68

OF CONTENTS

ix

			PAGE
1782	Aug. 14	Certificate of Jeremiah Colburn,	68
		Certificate of Auditors in favor Andrew Reed et als,	72
	Aug. 20	Report of Samuel Carr, Muster Master, . .	72
		Col. Hunter to Governor,	73
	Aug. 22	Memorial of Soldiers to Col. Allan, . . .	73
	Aug. 22	Col. Allan to Richard Devens Esqr, . . .	74
		Col. Hunter to Governor,	75
		Col. Allan to Governor,	76
	Aug. 26	Order of Court against Joseph McLellan, .	79
	Aug. 27	Memorial of Eastern Indians,	81
	Aug. 3	Letter of Fr. Juniper Berthiaume,	82
	Aug. 29	Report of Peter Noyes,	83
		Petition Inhab ^s Massabeesack,	84
	Sept. 6	Memorial Inhab ^s First Parish, Scarborough,	85
	Sept. 11	Certificate and Order in favor Thomas Thomas,	87
	Sept. 18	Petition Selectmen Town Coxhall,	87
		Petition Martha Oxnard,	89
	Sept. 23	Resolve on Foregoing,	90
	Sept. 23	Resolve on Petition Selectmen of Coxhall,	90
	Sept. 24	Resolve in re Confiscation of Estates, . .	91
	Sept. 27	Memorial Thomas Porter,	93
	Sept. 30	Resolve on same,	93
	Sept. 30	Resolve Additional to Foregoing,	94
		Petition James Avery,	95
	Sept. 30	Resolve in re Naval Officer at Machias, . .	96
	Oct. 2	Resolve Relating to Harpswell,	97
	Oct. 3	Certificate of Auditing Committee, . . .	98
		Petition John Preble and Accompanying Papers,	99
		Deposition of Abiel Lovejoy,	124
		Deposition of Thomas Sewall,	125
	Oct. 4	Action on Petition First Parish, Scarborough,	101
		Certificates Accompanying Resolve, . . .	103
	Oct. 4	Memorial Justices Court Lincoln Co., . .	104
		Josiah Brewer to Richard Devens, Esq., .	105
		Memorial of Col. Hunter,	109
	Oct. 12	Resolve on Foregoing,	109
	Oct. 14	Resolve on Petition Jonathan Bowman, . .	110
	Oct. 23	Certificate in favor Schr. Unity,	111
		Report and Resolve on Petition Col. Allen et als,	111
	Oct. 21	Resolve on Petition James Avery,	113
		Resolve in favor William Albee,	113
	Oct. 25	Memorial Nathaniel Wells et als,	114

			PAGE
1782	Oct. 30	Action on Foregoing,	116
	Oct. 25	Memorial Selectmen of Boothbay,	116
		Memorial James Bowdoin et als,	117
	Oct. 30	Resolve on Foregoing,	121
	Nov. 1	Petition James Howard Esq. & Resolve on same,	122
		Petition James Howard Esq.,	123
		Resolve in favor Niles Greenwood,	126
		Resolve in favor Joseph White,	127
		Report & Resolve on Memorial James Bow- doin et als,	128
	Nov. 3	George Little to Governor,	129
	Nov. 7	Appointment Stephen Smith Naval Officer at Machias,	130
	Nov. 11	Resolve in favor John Avery,	130
		Resolves Relating to Partition of Lands in York County,	130
	Nov. 12	Representation in Behalf Inhabit ^s Machias Plantation,	133
	Nov. 18	James Avery to Governor,	135
	Dec. 6	Petition Elijah Ayer,	136
	Dec. 20	Petition of Timothy Hodgdon,	137
		Petition Town of Bristol,	138
		Petition of George Smith,	140
1783	Jan. 1	Report of Committee in re Lands in Town of Sanford,	141
		Memorial of Proprietors of Land in York Co.,	142
	Jan. 6	Petition of Caleb Davis,	146
	Jan. 8	Petition Samuel Cobb, With Certificate,	146
	Jan. 10	Petition of William McCobb,	148
	Jan. 11	Resolve on Foregoing,	152
	Jan. 15	Petition Settlers on Sandy River,	152
	Jan. 20	Petition of Sarah Nason,	195
	Jan. 22	Petition of Thomas Child,	154
	Jan. 24	Memorial Selectmen Town of York,	156
	Jan. 25	Wm Lithgow to Governor,	157
	Jan. 27	Petition Elizabeth Wildridge,	158
	Jan. 28	Certificate in favor Adam Babcock,	160
		Resolve in favor James Hunter,	161
	Jan. 30	Memorial Caleb Davis and Action Thereon,	161
	Feb. 3	Representation of Inhabit ^s of Falmouth & Action on same,	162
	Feb. 4	Resolve on Petition Thomas Childs,	165
	Feb. 5	Petition Selectmen of Harpswell,	166
		Petition Sarah Nason, and Action Thereon,	167
	Feb. 6	Petition Joseph McLellan,	168

OF CONTENTS

xi

			PAGE
1783	Feb:	7	Resolve to Tax County of Cumberland, . . . 170
			Allowance to Collectors of Excise, . . . 171
			Message of Governor, . . . 171
	Feb.	8	Petition Inhabit ^{ts} Town of Arundel, . . . 172
			Memorial Simeon Mayo and Resolve thereon, 174
	Feb.	10	Resolve on Petition Timothy Hodgdon, . . . 176
	Feb.	11	Order Relating to Collectors of Excise, . . . 177
			Resolve in re Allowance of Collectors, . . . 178
			John Sewall Jr. to Governor, . . . 179
	Feb.	13	Resolve Relating to Indians, . . . 180
			Resolves in re Abatement and Assessments of Taxes, . . . 181
	Feb.	15	Resolve Relating to Trespassers, . . . 184
	Feb.	17	Resolve on Petition of Samuel Cobb, . . . 183
	Feb.	19	Resolve in re Incorporation of Pearsontown, 185
	Feb.	20	Resolve on Petition Elizabeth Wildridge, . 187
	Feb.	21	Affidavit in Rittal Case, . . . 186
	Feb.	22	George Washington to General Court, . . . 187
	Feb.	24	Petition James Hunter, . . . 189
	Feb.	25	Notice to Selectmen Town of Windham, . . 190
			Representation of Selectmen Accompany- ing Above, . . . 190
	Feb.	28	David Sewall to Tristram Dalton, . . . 191
	Mar.	1	Resolve on Petition Capt. Henry Dyer, . . . 193
	Mar.	11	Resolve on Petition Benja Dunning et al, . 194
			Resolve in re Execution of Martial Law, . . 194
	Mar.	12	Resolve Appointing Edward Grow, . . . 196
	Mar.	17	Resolve in re Land in Plantation Little Falls, 197
			James Lunt to John Avery, . . . 198
	Mar.	18	Resolve Relative to Land in Plantation Little Falls, . . . 199
			Certificate of Indebtedness of Absentees, . 200
	Mar.	19	Resolves in re Military Affairs, . . . 201
	March		Petition of General Heath, . . . 203
			Resolves on Petition of Richard Devens Esqr, Appointment Richard Codman et als Ap- praisers Waldo Estate, . . . 208
			Certificate in Favor John Bane, . . . 210
	Mar.	24	Memorial and Petition John Hovey, . . . 211
			The Governor to General Court, . . . 213
			Letter Enclosed, . . . 213
	Mar.	28	Receipts and Reports in re Absentees' Estates, . . . 214
	April	7	Petition Jona ^s Bean et al, Little Falls, . . 216
	April	12	John Allan to Governor, . . . 217
	April	16	John Allan to Governor, . . . 218

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE

			PAGE
1783	April 17	John Allan to Governor,	219
		John Allan to Governor,	220
	April 18	Advice of Governor Respecting John Allan,	221
	April 25	John Allan to Governor,	221
	May	Petition of Daniel Small et als,	222
	May 10	Petition Selectmen of Newcastle,	224
	May 12	Return of Votes,	226
	May 13	Petition Town of Waldoborough,	227
	May 20	Memorial Grantees Townships No. One to Six,	229
	May 26	Statement of Account,	231
		Petition Joseph Bertheaume,	231
	June 4	Resolve on Foregoing,	233
	June 10	Petition John Bane,	234
	June 11	Address of General Washington,	234
	June 16	Acceptance Treasurer's Accts. Town of York,	250
	June 16	Remonstrance of John Dillaway,	327
	June 19	Resolve in re Estate Francis Waldo,	250
	June 23	Resolve in Favor John Bane,	251
	June 30	Resolve on Petition of Benj. West,	252
		Action on Petition John Hovey,	252
	June 29	Petition of John Bakman,	253
	July 2	Report on Petition of Wm McCobb and Action Thereon,	254
	July 10	Address of General Court to George Washington,	255
	July 25	Receipt from William Howard,	256
		State of the Several Accts. of Thomas Child,	257
	Sept. 13	Petition Selectmen of Thomaston,	259
	Sept. 15	Josiah Brewer to Governor,	261
	Sept. 16	Petition and Remonstrance of Enoch Freeman et al,	262
	Sept. 22	Memorial Inhabitants of Boothbay,	263
	Sept. 23	Petition Town of Bristol,	264
	Sept. 24	Petition Josiah Waters Jr.,	266
		Action on Foregoing Petition,	267
		Certificate in Favor Joseph Marquand,	280
	Sept. 25	Certificate in favor Ezekiel Tarbox,	281
	Sept. 26	Certificate in favor Joseph Barrell,	286
	Sept. 29	Petition William Lermond,	268
	Oct. 1	Certificate Tristram Dalton,	286
		Certificate in favor Elias Haskell Derby,	281
		Certificate in favor Elias Haskell Derby,	282
		Certificate in favor Jonathan Gardner 3d,	283
		Certificate in Favor Elias Haskell Derby,	284

OF CONTENTS

xiii

			PAGE
1783	Oct.	1 Certificate in Favor Elias Haskell Derby, . . .	284
	Oct.	4 Petition Selectmen of Berwick, . . .	271
		Memorial Town of Bowdoinham, . . .	268
	Oct.	6 Petition Settlers on Saco River, . . .	271
		Certificate in favor Elias H. Derby, . . .	282
	Oct.	9 Certificate in favor Stephen Higginson, . . .	285
		Certificate in favor Benj. Lovett Jr., . . .	287
		Certificate in favor George Cabot, . . .	288
		Certificate in Favor John Lovett, . . .	288
	Oct.	17 Petition Josiah Brewer, . . .	273
		Report of the Committee on the Petition of Inhabitants of Machias and Resolve Thereon, . . .	305
	Oct.	18 Action on Petition Wm. Lermond, . . .	275
	Oct.	21 Certificate in Favor Melzar Sampson, . . .	307
	Oct.	22 Petition of Josiah Brewer, . . .	308
		Petition Town of Bristol, . . .	270
	Oct.	24 An Act Relating to Titles, . . .	275
	Oct.	27 Certificate in favor Thomas Stevens, . . .	309
	Oct.	28 Further Resolve Relating to Titles, . . .	278
	Oct.	31 Account Josiah Brewer, . . .	274
	Nov.	23 Thomas Mifflin to Governor in re Treaty of Paris, . . .	279
	Dec.	8 Affidavits, . . .	280
1784	Jan.	9 Land at Falmouth declared Forfeited to the Commonwealth, . . .	309
	Jan.	23 Petition for a Township, . . .	310
		Petition of Peleg Wadsworth and Others for Purchase of a Township on Penobscot River, . . .	311
	Jan.	23 Govr's Message, . . .	363
		Petition for a Township Between Kenne- beck and Penobscot, . . .	312
		Petition of Francis Shaw, . . .	313
	Feb.	Petition of Town of Bridgeton, . . .	365
	Feb.	12 Resolve on Petition of Francis Shaw, . . .	314
	Feb.	19 Govr's Message, . . .	366
	Feb.	20 Petition of John Peirce, . . .	314
	Mar.	2 Resolve on the Petition of Josiah Brewer, . . .	315
	March	Remonstrance of Inhab. of Lower Town of St. Georges, . . .	323
		Remonstrance of Inhab. of Thomaston and Lower Town of St. Georges, . . .	324
		Affidavit of John McIntyre and William Lermond, . . .	326
		Remonstrance of John Dillaway, . . .	327

			PAGE
1784	March	A Bill to prevent the Destruction of Alewives in the Town of Warren,	328
	March	Resolve for Laying Out Towns on the River St. Croix,	316
	Mar. 5	Preservation of Lands in Eastern Counties, .	367
	Mar. 10	Respecting Continental Money,	370
		Jedediah Preble's Claim,	371
	Mar. 12	Petition of Inhabitants of Bridgetown, .	372
	Mar. 13	Re: Petition of Hugh Hill,	373
	Mar. 15	Resolve Empowering the Committee of York & Cumberland Appointed on Eastern Lands to Consider the Pejepscot Claims, Bill Granting a Lottery to the Inhabitants of Fryburgh,	317
	Mar. 18	Memorial and Objection of the Inhabitants of Mount Desert,	329
	Mar. 19	Govr's Message,	375
		Govr's Message,	376
	Mar. 20	Objections to fixing the Court at Machias, .	331
	Mar. 22	Re: Georgetown & Bath,	377
	Mar. 23	Resolve Concerning the Artillery in the Garrison at Penobscot,	334
	Mar. 25	Govr's Message,	378
		Petition of Thomastown,	378
	April 20	Memorial and Objections to the Petition of Inhabitants of Machias,	335
	May 12	Answer to Remonstrants,	337
	May 14	Petition of Town of Oxford,	379
	May	Account of the County of Cumberland Against the Commonwealth,	350
	May 24	Inventory of Public Stores,	321
	May 26	Petition of Pelatiah Warren and Others, .	342
	May 28	James Lunt to John Avery Jr. Esq., . . .	342
	May 29	Proceedings of Delegates from Mt. Desert and Other Places,	343
	June	Petition of Juniper Berthiaume,	385
	June 1	Petition of Thos Oxnard,	386
		Act Regulating Proceedings of Proprietors of Townships,	386
	June 2	Petition of John Allan for Land in Passa- maquody,	351
		Annexation of St Georges Lower Town to Warren,	381
		Petition of Samuel Pendleton,	382
1784	June 2	Petition of a Number of Masters of Coast-	

OF CONTENTS

XV

		PAGE
	ing Vessels,	383
	Petition of Juniper Berthiaume,	384
June 10	Petition of the Court of Sessions of Cum- berland County,	349
June 12	Report of Committee,	344
	Bill to Establish a Court at Machias,	345
June 21	Petition for Grant of Tract of Land on the River Cobscook,	389
June 30	House Journal,	390
	Bill explaining the Laws Respecting the Assessment of Taxes,	392
July 2	Petition of Pelatiah Warren & Others, and action on same,	394
July 7	Report of Committee on Lands in the County of Lincoln,	354
	Act empowering the Govr to renew the License of certain Absentees,	356
	Re: Eastern Boundary,	396
Aug. 23	Selectmen of Harpswell Petition,	397
Aug. 25	Re: Light House Money From the Port of York,	397
Sept. 20	Resignation of Edwd Grow,	357
	Towns which have returned their valuation, Nath Wyman's Petition,	358
	Petition of William Jones of Bristol,	359
	Petition of Plantation of Raymonton,	360
	Petition of John Waite et al—Light House, Petition of Nicholas Crosby,	361
Oct.	Petition of Inhabitants of Scarborough,	363
Oct. 8	Memorial of the Justices of the Lincoln Court of Common Pleas,	398
Oct. 12	Memorial and Petition of Samuel Goodwin and Order on same,	399
Oct. 14	Petition of Ben. Jepson,	400
Oct. 18	Order on Report of Committee of Both Houses on Arrival of Marquis de La Fayette in Boston,	404
Oct. 20	Govr's Message,	405
Nov.	Treasurer Not to Issue Soldiers Notes Un- less on Attested Orders,	405
Nov. 17	Petition of Inhabitants of Topsham and Memorial of The Inhabitants of the Town of Brunswick,	406
1785 Jan. 12	Petition of Isalah Cole and Colonel Henry Jacksons Certificate of the Servitude of Isalah Cole,	464
Jan. 13	Petition of Ellah Royall,	409
		410

			PAGE
1785	Jan. 21	Order Appointing a Valuation Com. & their Report,	412
	Feb.	Petition of Some of the Inhabitants of Sheepscot River in the Town of Pownalboro,	416
	Feb. 4	Petition of Silas Barnes & Answer to same,	434
	Feb. 7	Petition First Parish in Falmouth,	419
		A Bill for Naturalization,	422
	Feb. 15	Clerk Court of Com. Pleas Lincoln County,	417
	Feb. 19	Lieut Governors Message,	418
	Feb. 25	Extract of a Letter from the Hon Rufus King to the President of Senate Taken by Direction of the Senate—Re: Eastern Boundary,	432
	Mar. 1	Petition of Sundry Soldiers of the Late Continental Army For Lands Near Otisfield,	423
	Mar. 2	Petition of Hector McNeill and Others re Maps,	429
	Mar. 5	Petition of the Officers of the Army,	426
	Mar. 15	Petition of Lewiston Plantation & Answer to Same,	436
		Petition of John Curtis,	439
		Order of Court,	441
		Hodgkins vs. Curtis and Askins,	443
		Deposition of Moses Hodgkins,	445
		Deposition of Agreen Crabtree,	447
		Deposition of John Hamor,	450
		Deposition of John Hart,	452
		Permission Granted to Philip Hodgkins,	453
		Sureties Furnished,	454
		Deposition of John Tilley,	455
		Deposition of Will ^m Lithgow Junr,	456
		Deposition of John Augusta Dunn,	457
		Deposition of William Downe,	459
	Mar. 16	Order of Notice on Petition of John Curtis of Falmouth,	463
	Nov. 18	Petition of Elizabeth Goldthwait,	435
		A Bill Conferring the Rights of Citizenship to the Marquis De La Fayette,	248

DOCUMENTARY HISTORY
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

Petition of William Taylor.

To the Honble Senate & the honble House of Representatives
for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General
Court assembled

¶ The Petition of William Taylor Esquire of Milton in
the county of Suffolk ¶ Humbly shews ¶ That on the
thirteenth day of November one thousand seven hundred and
sixty seven, your Petitioner being indebted to Thomas Lane
Esq^r of London in the sum of one thousand nine hundred
and twenty one pounds eleven Shillings, lawful money, he
gave his bond for that sum upon interest, to said Lane, and
as a collateral security for the payment thereof he gave his
deed of mortgage of the following lotts of land, viz^t a Lott
of land called No. 18 lying in Pownalborough containing
thirty two hundred acres, also two lotts of land call'd N^o 11,
& N^o 68. both lying in Hallowell containing four hundred
acres each, also one other lott of land marked N^o 15 lying in
Gardinston, containing five thousand acres—

That M^r Lane sued out the said Bond and at the Sup^r
Court of Judicature held at Boston for the county of Suffolk
in February 1772 recovered judgment thereon against your
Petitioner for the sum of two thousand four hundred and
fourteen pounds fifteen shillings lawful money. And Rich-
ard Lechmore esquire as agent & attorney to said Lane was
very pressing upon your Petitioner for the money, but the

times being then difficult it was out of his power to discharge the said Judgment, and he was oblig'd in order to satisfy the said Lechmere, on the second day of June 1772, as a further security for s^d debt to give his other mortgage to said Lane of three other tracts of land viz^t a Lott of land marked A 1. lying in Winslow containing six thousand five hundred and eighty acres, Also of a Lott of land marked B E 1. containing seven thousand two hundred acres, and also of a lott of land marked C C 2. containing seven thousand two hundred acres, both lying higher up Kennebeck River ¶ That the first mentioned thirty two hundred acre lott of land as your Petitioner then thought and still conceives was the full value of his said debt. Notwithstanding which your Petitioner to pacify Mr Lechmere & procure his further forbearance mortgaged all the other before mentioned tracts of land; But Mr. Lechemere not content therewith was so hard and cruel as to insist upon having some further security, whereupon to avoid an arrest the said Taylor made an additional mortgage to the said Lane of one twenty fourth part of all the undivided lands belonging to the proprietors of the Kenneck purchase being all his right therein.

The said William humbly begs leave to represent that a great part of the land above described is charg'd with the payment of taxes, and has in fact been sold at publick vendue by the collector for that purpose, the time of redemption is now almost expired, and unless some provision is made to recover the said estate a total loss thereof must ensue as well in regard to your petitioner as all others therein concern'd ¶ He has no disposition to defraud his creditors and for three years past has been indefatigable in his endeavours to make such an adjustment as will give satisfaction to them and do justice to himself—the said lands could be sold for a sum far exceeding the debt, but in these circumstances it cannot be accomplished — Wherefore he prays that this Hon^{ble} Court

would authorize some person or persons to discharge the said mortgages upon payment of the said debt, and dispose of the monies arising therefrom in such manner as may hereafter be decreed — he would observe that John Rowe Esq^r had a general power of Attorney from Mes^r Lane & Compy but he is informed by Counsel in the law that the same is insufficient to discharge the said incumbrance, which still urges the necessity of this application — Your Petitioner is ready to verify the facts alleged, and therefore flatters himself that your Honors will comply with his reasonable request or grant such other relief as Justice may require & if your Honors should not think proper to proceed so far in the matter as to grant the authority aforesaid, he prays that a further time may be allowed for the redemption of said land, as the estate of the purchaser within two months from this period will be absolute & indefensible or that he may have liberty to execute a perfect deed of such certain part thereof as may be sufficient to discharge the taxes that already have been or may hereafter be assessed — ¶ And as in duty bound will ever pray

W^m Taylor

Boston April 20th 1782

Lands mortgaged

Lott containing 3200 acres in Pownalborough

Do	400	}	Do in Hallowell
Do	400		
D ^o	5000	}	Do in Gardneston
D ^o	6580		
	15580		
D ^o	7200	}	higher up the River
	7200		
	400		
	30380		

Total 30380 — acres —

*William Grow to Edward Grow.*York April 22^d 1782Brother Edw^d Grow

Inclosed I beg leave to trouble you with Sundry Papers to present to the House of assembly Relative to Provisions the Committee of York Supply'd the Cardeel Penobscot (Cap^t Joseph Hilbert) with Last November—as you will Se by the accounts & Deposition; they have been presented to John Hopkins Esq^r Commissary of Prisoners, on whom they were Drawn, but he refuses to pay them, and says there is a Resolve of Court that all Such Demands must be Laid before the House of assembly for payment—therefore we have Sent a pettion to Lay before the House for that Purpose and beg the favour you would present it and urge the Payment of it together with the Charge we have been at, which you will See on the back of the Last accounts, you may Inform the House that the Cardeel Did not Sail from this Harbour till the 15th of November by Reason of Contrary winds—our famely & yours are well, this from your Brother—

William Grow

Committee of York to General Court.

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate & house of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts now Setting,

Your Petitioners Humbly Shews—¶ That on the tenth of Nov^r last a cardeel came into York harbours in distress haveing no provisions with upward of Forty men On board, as by the Depositions of the Masters and two Passengers on the Eleventh ult. put to sea after being Supplied with Necessaries, on the Fifteenth were drove back by contrary winds and Appli'd for further Supplies which was granted as may

be seen by Reisepts with orders, Drawn on John Hopkins Esq^r for the payment, which he Refuses to pay, Therefore your Petitioners pray, that payment may be made in such way and manner as your Honours shall think best, As your Petitioners in Duty bound Shall ever Pray—

M Stone }
William Grow } Com. of York

York April 22^d 1782

Petition Inhabitants St. Georges to General Court.

St Georges April the 22 1782

To the Honorable Senate & the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives in General Court Assembled, sitting at Boston this present year—

¶ The humble petition of the Inhabitants of the Lower Town of St Georges send greeting—¶ Gentlemen, We the Subscribers would beg leave to address your Hon^{rs} in behalf of the Town and set forth our present distressed situation by Reason of the Enemy's Excursions among us, taking our Coasting Vessels, destroying our Fishing Boats plundering Houses and Committing all manner of Hostilities we would beg leave to Acquaint your Hon^{rs} that we have no Vent for any Sort of Lumber, nor no possibility of Carrying on any Trade among us Which renders us unable to support our families, Much less to pay Taxes, We would also Acquaint your honors that we believe there has been Some Misrepresentation made at Court concerning this plantation, which is manifest from the last Tax bill which is above three times more than it used to be, in proportion to other Towns, we would further acquaint your Hon^{rs} that we would be Willing to pay our Taxes with the greatest pleasure & support the Common Cause to the best of our ability provided we had

protection by Sea, that we may get off our Lumber, therefore we flatter ourselves from your Honor's humanity towards the distressed, that you will Consider our Case, and either send some Armed Vessels to protect us, or Excuse us from paying Rates, otherwise we must be Reduced to the greatest Extremity. We Request that your Honor's will Grant this our petition, for which your Honor's petitioners will ever pray —

William Young,
George Young,
George M^cCobb,
Moses Robinson

Committee in behalf of the lower
town of St Georges

Resolve on Petition Robert Foster.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the house of Representatives April 22^d 1782

on the petition of Robert Foster Praying that he may Receive the Back Rations due to him as Quarter M^r of the Troops at Machias and his Retain^d Rations while he acted as as^t D Q. M. G. at that p^t ¶ Resolved that the prayer of the Petition be granted and the Commis^r is here by Directed to Deliver to the said Robert Foster the Rations due to him as Q. M. of the Troops at Machias from the 23 Day of Jan^r 1778 to the 16th Day of May following it being 112 Days, and also his Retain^d rations while he acted as as^t D. Q. M. G. from May 5th 1780 to the 31 Day of Jan^r 1781 it being 271 Days A

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate April 23^d 1782

Read & Concurred with Amendment at A.

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

at A "the same to be charg'd to the United States in part of the requisition for Money for the pres^t year"

In the House of Representatives April 23^d 1782

Read & concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Directing Committee to Lay Out Land.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives April 24, 1782

Whereas the General Court by a Resolution dated the 21st of Sept^r 1780 granted to the Hon^{ble} Arthur Lee Esq^r Six thousand Acres of unappropriated Lands in this State, lying Eastward of Saco River, to be laid out either in one or two Pieces adjoining to some other Grant or Grants, in full Compensation for his Services as mentioned in the said Resolution. And the Hon^{ble} Benjamin Chadbourne Esq^r & Moses Little Esq^r were appointed a Committee to lay out the same at the Expense of this State & return a Plan of the Same as soon as may be ¶ And whereas by the bodily Indisposition of the said Moses Little which he still labours under the said Land hath not yet been laid out agreeable to the said Resolution ¶ Therefore Resolved that Nath^l Wells Esq^r and Capt Moses Greenleaf be & they are hereby added to the said Committee and the said Committee or the Major part of them are empowered & directed to lay out the said Land in pursuance of the Resolution of the 21 of Sept^r aforesaid & re-

turn a Plan thereof by a Surveyor & Chainman under oath
to the general Court for Confirmation as soon as may be

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate April 24th 1782

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd

John Hancock

Resolve on Petition of Colonel Allan.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives April 29, 1782

On the petition of Col John Allan Continentall Agent, for
Indian Affairs in the Eastern department, praying for
Liberty to remove part of the Artillery and Ordinance Stores,
now at the post of Machias to the River Schoduck in Passa-
maquody, also a Quantity of Stores for the Use of the In-
dian Business for reason sett forth in his petition ¶ Resolved
¶ That the Commissary Gen^l of this Common Wealth be
directed to deliver to Lieut Fred^k Delesdernier Agent for Col.
John Allan, for the Use of the Indian Business, two Months
Rations for twenty five persons, two Barrells of powder,
Eight hundred weight of shot & Ball, 500 flints, one Hh^d of
Tobacco, one pipe of small wine, one Hh^d of Rum, one Hh^d of
molasses, ten Axes & 50 Bushells of Indian Corn — And it is
further Resolved that there be paid out of Treasury of this
Common Wealth to Lieut Lewis DeLesdernier, for the use of
Col. John Allan one hundred pounds, for Contingencies and
other debts Contracted in Eastern department, and that the
said articles & money be charged to the United States in part
of the requisitions of the present year And his Excellency
the Gov^r is desired to give such orders, with respect to moving
part of the Cannon and ordinance stores, from the post of

Machias, to The River Schoduck in pasamaquody or any other ^A part of the Eastern Country, ^B as he shall Judge most for the Interest of this and the United States

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate April 29th 1782

Read & Concurred with Amendment at A

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

at A dele from A to B & insert, place within Col^o Allens Department

In the House of Representatives April 29, 1782

Read & concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

W^t drawn 24th May, 1782

Action on Petition of William Taylor.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of representatives May 3, 1782

Upon the petition of William Taylor praying that the time of redemption of certain lands in said petition mentioned may be extended further than by law is allready provided Resolved that the prayer of said petition be granted and that the right of redeeming any lands situated in the County of Lincoln, and mortgaged by William Taylor now of Milton in the County of Suffolk Esq^r to Thomas Lane late of London merchant and which lands have been sold for the payment & discharge of taxes assessed thereon, the equity of redeeming which is in the said Williams be and hereby is continued and extended to him the said Williams his heirs and assigns untill the first day of December next the time limited for the redemption thereof expiring before notwithstanding, and be it

further resolved that all persons holding said lands be and they hereby are holden and compellable to release said lands to him the said Williams his heirs or assigns at any time untill the said first day of December next in the same manner as they by law are holden for the term of three years from said sale the said Williams his heirs or assigns complying with all prerequisites of law — any law to the contrary notwithstanding —

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham, Speaker

In Senate May 4th 1782

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd

John Hancock

Appointment of Excise Deputies.

Sir ¶ By a law of this Commonwealth, I am as a Collector of Excise apply to your Excellency for your apperbation of my Deputys—I have appointed M^r Jonas Farnsworth of Machias a Deputy Collector of Excise for that part of the County & Request your approbation of him— I am with Respect your Excel: mostd oblig^d Humb. Serv^t

¶ To His Excel John Handcook

Hallowell May 3^d 1782

Josiah Brewer to Richard Devens.

Fort Hallifax May 6th 1782

Sir

Yours of the 2^d of Octo^r 1781 Nov^r 8th & 15th I have received. the Goods and Provisions ware all Delivered to Col^o William Howard agreeable to your Direction, it was so late before the Sloop arrived in the River it was not possable to git the goods up by water to Fort Hallifax last fall, some part

of which I got up by Land in the Winter the Remainder is still at Fort Weston and Could not be got up till this time by Reason that the water has been very high till this time. Grate part of the Indians Remove^d back to there old hunting ground last fall and have not got in with thare Springs hunt which has lengthen^d out there provision so that I have more then one half there Rations by me now. The French Pres^t went over to Penobscot in march he was to Returne here in three weeks with the Indians he is not Return^d which makes me think he may be taken and carre^d into the British Fort at Penobscot, I have Ship^d on Board the Sloop hope Samuel Howard Master Sixty Two moos: Skins two Carrebo Skins Thirteen Bare Skins two Woolf Skins One Barrel of Furs Containing Nineteen Bever Skins Sixty Seven Saples one black Catt Forty Eight musquash two Otter two Raccoon Skins and one otter Not in the Barrel which is all the Skins and furs of Every Kind I have Received since I left Boston ¶ I am Sir With the Gratest Respect your most Obed^t Humble Servant

Josiah Brewer Truck Master

¶ Richard Devens Esq.

¶ Rec^d June 5th 1782 from Col. Brewer at Fort Hallyfax.

Petition of Town of Cape Elizabeth.

To the Honourable Senate and the Honourable House of Representatives in General Court Assembled

April A D 1782

¶ The Petition of the Town of Cape Elizabeth Humbly Sheweth That your Petitioners have been over Taxed by reason of a Mistake of one Hundred Polls in our Return more than we had in the Town when the list of Polls and Estates were called for in the year 1777 or 1778 and by the Resolve of Court those Towns which appeared to have paid

too Great a proportion of Taxes should be abated in the Next Tax for such sums and as the Mistake augmented our Valuation $8^s/4^d$ on Every Thousand Pounds which we Humbly conceive has caused us to pay since that valuation took place to the Year 1781 part in Silver and part in paper curren- cy to the amount of 7869£ $14^s/2^d$ and we humbly conceive our Beaf Taxes and Cloathing is in the same proportion as al- so if any Tax has been Granted by Government Since 1782 in the same Proportion all which added to our Distresses by Reason of the war Extraordinary loss of Men and increase of Widdows and Fatherless beyond any Town in the compass of our knowledge we haveing but 265 Rateable Polls left in the Town now which causes much of our lands to lie Dormant our Navigation intirely lost, the Great Sums we have been obliged to Give as Bounty for the men we have furnished has Caused us for want of Money to Make over part of our stocks to them which with all other Extraordinary Charges has brought an inormus Debt on the Town wherefore pray Your Honours to take the Distrest Surcumstances of the Town into your wise consideration and Grant us such abate- ment in our back Taxes as in Justice you shall find our Due and further pray your Honours to take our Distrest Surcum- stances into Consideration particularly our losses of Men and Exposedness to the Enemy being only a Cape or Nick of land the Enemys Cruzers allmost continually in sight of us, our Extream Poverty, and abate us of the six men we are want- ing or stay the Execution for the Average Drill and fine till we are able to pay the same for it is impossible for us to pay it under our present Sircumstances and Your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall ever Pray

By Order of the Town

Stephen Randall,	}	Selectmen of Said Town
Barzillai Delano,		
Benjamin Jordan		

Resolve on Above Petition.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate May 7, 1782

On the Petition of Stephen Randall & others Selectmen of the Town of Cape Elizabeth, praying that Execution may not be issued against said Town for penalties incurred by not compleating its' quota of men agreeable to the Order of Government of the 2^d of December 1780 Resolved, ¶ That the Town of Cape Elizabeth be allowed sixty days, from the date of this order, for procuring and compleating its quota of Men agreeable to the Resolve of the General Court of the 2^d of Dec^r 1780. And the Treasurer of this Commonwealth is hereby directed to issue no Execution, against said Town for any deficiency of said Men, in the mean Time, Or if Execution is already issued to recall the same, the said Town paying all such Cost as hath arisen therefrom—

Sent down for Concurrence—

S Adams Presid^t*Deposition of John Linnekin.*

The deposition of John Linnekin of Lawful age testifyeth & saith that some time of the faull of the Year 1781 I the deponant was at Long Island at M^r Pembertons where I saw Thomas M^cGuire of Bristol who said that he the s^d M^cGuire came thether in a Canew from Camden, & that he the s^d M^cGuire said he was going to headquarters meaning Bageduce & that s^d McGuire said that William McCobb Esquire of Boothbay had had a lawsute with M^cGuire and further that the s^d McCobb had had a Thousand hard Dollar & that he the s^d McGuire said to the Men of an Armed Boat from Bageduce there was a fine oppertunity for them

& likewise told them there was also valuable Cloaths & house furneture and he the s^d McGuire did perswade the Men of s^d Armed Boat, to go & rob s^d McCobb, & further saith that one of the Owners of said Boat asked me the deponant if I could pilot him to s^d McCobbs House & told me he had heard s^d McCobb had a thousand hard Dollars & other valluable Good & if we would go we might make our fortune, & further saith the boat was designed to go, but in a Stormmy Night was cast a drift & finially lost, and further I the Deponant heard my sister who was at Bageduce say about fourteen days after she saw said McGuire at Bageduce, and further I the Deponant in November 1782 saw said M^cGuire at work at the Taylor Trade at Bageduce and knew that he came there of his own accord and further saith not—

John Linnekin

Lincoln Ss May 8th, 1782

Then personally appeared the afore named John Linniken & made solemn Oath to the truth of the above Deposition by him signed — before me —

Dum^m Sewall J. Peace

Resolve to Continue Post Between Portsmouth and Falmouth.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts —

In the House of Representatives May 8, 1782

Whereas Ebenezer Hazard Esq^r Post Master general of the United States has by his Letter of the 25th February to Samuel Freeman Esq^r Post Master at Falmouth, signified the Discontinuation of the Post from Portsmouth to Falmouth Aforesaid; and Whereas the situation & Circumstances of that part of the Common welth, having all certain Communication by water cut off, & being contiguous to the Enemy, which Renders Troops in that Quarter Necessary, with whome Communication must be Kept up — Therefore Re-

solved that the Post from Portsmouth to Falmouth be still Continued. And that Samuel Freeman Esq^r be, and hereby is Impoured & directed to Engage Joseph Barnard, the Former Rider on that Route, (If he will Engage, & If not sume Sutibal Person) to Continue riding till Further Orders from this Court, or From Congress—And it is Further Resolved, that the Governor be & he hereby is Requested to write to Congress on the Subject Acquainting them with the doings of this Court thereon—and desiring that said Post may be still continued, as Necessary to the publick Good

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate May 8th 1782

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd

John Hancock

Resolves Relating to War Stores &c.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives May 8 1782

On Application from Lieut: Colⁿ James Hunter for provision & warlike stores, agreeably to a Resolve of the seventh of March last, for the Troops under his Comand in the County of Lincoln; ¶ Resolved, that Richard Devens Esq^r Commissary general for this Commonwealth be, & he hereby is directed to forward to s^d Hunter, by the first suitable Conveyance, for the use of the Troops under his Command, the Articles contained in the schedule herewith, to be charged to the United States, & to be accounted for by s^d Hunter. ¶ And it is further Resolved, that the s^d Commissary be &

he hereby is directed to call on Colⁿ Sam^l M^cCobb, who commanded in the eastern department the last year, to account for what warlike stores, provisions, & Camp Utensils were delivered the last year for the use of the Department. ¶ And it is further Resolved, that the s^d Commissary be, & he hereby is directed to call on the several persons, who have received warlike stores, provision, & Camp utensils in the County of Lincoln, immediately to account for the same. ¶ Resolved, that the above said Lieu^t Colⁿ Hunter be, & he hereby is impowered & directed receive what warlike stores, provisions & Camp utensils of every kind may remain in the hands of any person, who has received them in the County of Lincoln; the s^d Hunter to become accountable for the same, & to give duplicate Receipts specifying the Article received, one of which to be lodged in the Secretary's Office as soon as may be. ¶ And it is further Resolved, that the s^d Lieu^t Colⁿ Hunter be, & he hereby is directed & impowered from time to time to detach from the men under his Command such numbers as shall be consistent with the good of the service, & as may be requisite to man any Vessel belonging to the Commonwealth, & cruising as a guarda Costa on the eastern shore; s^d men to be detached but for a short & limited time, & to be entitled to equal benefit from prizes taken, as the men who belong to the s^d Vessel. ¶ And it is further Resolved, that the Agent for receiving Beef in the County of Lincoln be & he hereby is impowered & directed to deliver Beef for the use of the above Troops on application for that purpose from Colⁿ Hunter, to the amount of fifty Barrels.

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham, Speaker

In Senate May 9 1782

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Petition of Inhabitants of Frenchman's Bay.

To the Hon^{ble} the General Court of Massachusetts

¶ The Petition of a Number of Inhabitation in Frenchmans Bay having through the Continuance of the Present wars more Especially since the Britans have taken Possession at Bagaduce Been Reduced to the Greatest Difficulty Can be exprest for want of the Necessarys of Life all Communications being Cut of from the westerly part of this Common wealth, that your Petitioners are Deprest and nearly sunk under Accumelated Distress and to add to these Troubles the Severe Drouth and Violent fires which we have been Exercisd with the Past Summer has nearly Compleated our misary, our Hay and Crops being Chiefly Destroyd by which means we have Lost many of our Cattle, and are now Unable to Persue our Planting and other Calling for the support of our Familey this being the Real State of our Case we beg Leave to Lay the same before your Honours and Humbly Pray the Honorable Court may take our Deplorable Situation Under your most serious Consideration and Grant us some Releaf Under Such Restrictions and in that way you in your known wisdom shall think Best the Bearers of this are M^r William Gascomb, Stephen Hardison & John Bane who will wait on you & take a faithfull Care of what ever you may Please to send for our Releaf Under these Present Surcumstances as in Duty bound shall ever Pray —

Stephen Hardison,	Abraham Donnell,	Thomas Frazier,
Nat Hardison,	Stephen Clark,	John + Hammond,
John Springer,	David Hooper,	John Johnson,
Moses Abbott,	Moses Butler,	Francis Dalton
Benjamin Clark,	Tho ^s + Ash,	Thos + Googin
Reuben Abbot,	Judah West,	
Daniel Seamon,	Philip Martin,	

Resolve on Foregoing Petition.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts—

In the House of Representatives May 9th 1782

On the Petition of Stephen Hardison & others, Inhabitants of Frenchman's, who have perseveringly adhered to their fidelity to the United States, & are now reduced to distress, praying for some Assistance & Relief; ¶ Resolved, that there be granted for the Relief of s^d Petitioners, being about twenty in number; & for the Relief of others of like fidelity, & in distress at Frenchman's Bay, to be delivered in the Care of Mes^{rs} Stephen Hardison, John Bane, & William Gatecomb by them to be forwarded & distributed among the distressed; one hundred Bushels of Indian Corn; one Hh^d of Melasses, & one Barrel of Coffee; also one doz. of fishing lines, & half a gross of hooks to enable s^d Inhabitants to procure fish for subsistence, those who receive any proportion of the above Articles to be accountable for the same, & to pay therefor in proportion as they receive them when ^A Reverse of fortune & Circumstances shall enable them to do it ^B

And it is further Resolved, that the Commissary General of this Commonwealth be, & he hereby is directed to furnish the above Articles & deliver them to the aforesaid Hardison, Bane & Gatecomb, taking duplicate Receipts for the same, one of which to be lodged in the Secretary's Office:

Sent up for Concurrence Nath Gorham Speaker
In Senate May 9 1782

Read & Concurred with Amendment at A

At A dele from A to B & insert, their Circumstances shall admit of it

Sent down for Concurrence S Adams Presid^t
In the House of Representatives May 9, 1782

Read & concurred Nath Gorham Speaker
Approv'd John Hancock

Permission in Favor of Nathaniel Coffin.

Boston May 18, 1782

In pursuance of the above Advice of Council an Order Issued from me authorizing Cap^t Ebenezer Prebble to bring the Effects above mentioned in said Schooner but it having appeared by a Certificate of the said Cap^t Prebble that he was not suffered to transact the Business Therefore Permission is hereby granted to Nathaniel Coffin to proceed to Penobscot in a small Schooner called the Humbird for the purpose of bringing the Effects of his deceased Brother now in the Hands of M^r Robert Pagan to Falmouth in the County of Cumberland in said Commonwealth and for this purpose only—And all Commanders of Armed Vessels and others belonging to this State are hereby directed and all Commanders of Armed Vessels and others belonging to the United States are requested not to molest or impede the said Schooner with the Effects of the said Coffin on Board on her return from Penobscot to Falmouth aforesaid.

*John Lane to the Governor.*Fryburg May y^o 2[] 1782.

To the Committes of Supplyes in this M S State ¶ Gentle men

These ar to Certy that The Indians whose Names are Jincen & Sawasen have been in y^o Interest of this State Ever since y^o present war and are Now going to Boston on Publick busines and will Stand in Nead of some asistans on ther Journey I mak no dout you will aford them what you Can as the Court has always alowed Such Expences no doute you will be Leved for what you Suply them with your humble Servent

John Lane Agent for y^o Eastern Indians

To the Senate & House of Representatives of Massachusetts

¶ Your Petitioner humbly beg Leave to Shew that in y^e year 1775 he was appointed By y^e Congres then Siting at watertown, agent for y^e Eastern Indians and they ware directed To me for to set forth their grevences to Government Which with Submision I now do for y^e Bu[]rers in behalf of ther Compney which is about thirty two who Live at Am-mascoggen They Say in truth they have been friends to The Country Ever Sence the present War and are Now Sufers on that a Count and therfore desire they might Have some help for them selves and families in that way your Exclency Shal think Proper as I have got y^e Indian Sourley they tell me they would be glad To have a Peace of Land to improve and Leave ther families on wilest the go to hunting as the Can-not go to gether in Safty for fear of y^e Canada Indians who will Kill them for being friends to this Countrey if they also say they would be glad to have a small quantity of goods at Am-mascogging in some honest mans hands that They may perches with their Skins & furs for Want of which they do Really Sufer therfor your petisiner humbley Pray that your Excelency would take it in to your wise Consideration to grant them some Releaf In that way your Honors wisdom shall think best your Exelenys most obedient humble Servent is in Duty bound to Pray

John Lane

Fryburg may y^e 24 1782

To his Exclency y^e govener of y^e Massachusetts State.

Petition of Jacob Ludwig.

To the Hon^{ble} Senate and the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in the General Court Assembled

May 29, 1782

The Petition of Jacob Ludwig in behalf of the Town of Waldoborough in the County of Lincoln Humbly Sheweth

¶ That the Inhabitants of said Town are by their Situation greatly exposed to the incursions of the Enemy so that some of the Inhabitants have been killed by the Enemy in their own Houses, and the Cheif way said Inhabitants had to support themselves was by the carrying Lumber to Markett, this is now entirely cutt off they having lost all their Vessells by the Enemy, and thereby all their Trade destroyed; Last year The Drought affected them so that many of the Inhabitants have not bread to eat. The cheif of said Inhabitants are Germans who are but poor & unable to contribute any thing for the Publick Expence

For the above Reasons Your Petitioner prays the Compassionate Regards of this Hon^d Court that the Taxes levied on said Inhabitants may be abated them or otherwise be relieved as in the Wisdom & Justice of this Hon'd Court shall seem meet. ¶ And your Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall ever pray &c

Jacob Ludwig

Petition in Behalf of Town of Bristol.

To the Honourable Senate and House of Representatives in
General Court Assembled of the Commonwealth of
Massachusetts

May 29, 1782

¶ The Petition of Alexander Nichols in behalf of the
Town of Bristol in the County of Lincoln ¶ Humbly Sheweth

That the Inhabitants of said Town by their Situation being bounded by the Rivers and Sea almost round the Town are greatly exposed to the Enemy and have lost in the Course of the War about one dozen sail of Vessells w^{ch} is the only way said Inhabitants have to support themselves by carrying Lumber and the Fishery, and Last year the extreme Drought

in the Eastern parts greatly affected the Husbandry that the Crops of Corn and the Hay were cut so short as that many of the Inhabitants had not Bread to eat; and the Trade being so distressed by Sea, that they could not send Lumber to Markett to purchase any. ¶ For the above Reasons and many others that could be mentioned Your Petitioner would recommend the Inhabitants of said Town to the tender Compassion and Consideration of this Honoured Court and earnestly pray that under their distressed Circumstances, as to remitt their Taxes laid on them for two years past, either in Whole or Part or otherwise grant them such Relief as in the Justice and Wisdom of this Honoured Court shall seem meet they being in no Capacity able to pay the same. ¶ And as in Duty Bound your Petitioner shall ever pray &c

Alex: Nickels

Petition of Selectmen of Newcastle.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

To the Hon^{ble} Senate and the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives
to be assembled in General Court

May 29th 1782

¶ May it please your Honours ¶ The Petition of the Select-Men of Newcastle in the County of Lincoln on behalf of said Town Humbly Sheweth, That the Town of Newcastle by a Concurrence of calamitous Circumstances is at present in a most Deplorable Situation and under the necessity of imploring Relief from your Honours— That the Wood and Lumber Trade of our Rivers was before the Commencement of the War the chief means of the Subsistence of the Inhabitants and the only means of bringing any Money into the place— That the War at first brought great Embarrassments upon this Trade and thereby reduced the Inhabitants

to the last Extremities for the Necessaries of Life and that altho' our attention has since been more turned to Agriculture yet from the Barrenness of the Soil and the severe Droughts that have been in these parts of the Country for six years past (one year only excepted) Our Produce has never been near equal to the necessary Consumption of the People— That this Deficiency could be made up only by importations by water which are attended with such a Risque that the Price is vastly enhanced to the purchaser — that the pressing necessities of the people (the painful Sense of Hunger) oblige them to part with every vendible article of Property at the Buyer's price in Order to procure necessary Bread for their Families,— That the Scarcity of Hay, Occasioned by the Droughts, has diminished their Stocks of Cattle and that these, and the many other Burdens and Disasters of the War have greatly impoverished them. Your Petitioner would further shew, That, Since the Enemy have been in possession of the Harbour on the Mouth of Penobscot River, we have severely suffered from the Encroachments and Depredations of these our hostile Neighbours, who, beside almost entirely suppressing our Lumber Trade, incessantly infest our Rivers, with their Armed Boats and prey upon every Species of our Navigation from the Lumber Vessel to the smallest Canoe that floats on the Tide — That, hence, we are in a manner deprived of the Privilege of the Fishery in and about the Mouths of the Rivers, which, heretofore, was Considerable and a great means of Support to Numbers of People. ¶ Your Petitioners would also further shew, That all the Measures of Government that have as yet been adopted to protect us & Our Lumber Trade from the Encroachments of the Enemy in our Neighbourhood have proved ineffectual for that purpose. That last year, in particular, the Guards Ordered By Government for the Defence of the Eastern parts being stationed at Kennebec River, we were left defenceless

and exposed to the continual Depredations of the Enemy— That at this time there is not a Single Vessel belonging to the Town & scarcely one to either of the Rivers on which the Town lies, to Carry our Wood & Lumber to Market or bring any Supplies of Provision or Money to the place; and,— that, as Our Crops were almost wholly Cut off last year, this Town now exhibits a most striking Scene of poverty & Distress. From a sufficient acquaintance with the Circumstances of Individuals, your Petitioners can aver that there are many families in this Town that are now, & have been for some time, destitute of Bread and have no means to obtain any; and that there is not Money Eno' in the Bounds of the Town to pay the smallest State Tax now laid upon us & that at present there is no apparent possibility of procuring it. ¶ Your Petitioners would therefore humbly Recommend the Town of Newcastle, under its present Circumstances, to your Honour's most wise, serious and good Consideration, and pray your Honours to Grant us that Relief which Necessity compels us to ask, Viz A Remittance of the Taxes laid upon us by Government the two Last Years and an Exemption from State Taxes for the future, till an Alteration of Circumstances shall put it in our power (which now it is not) to fulfil the Requisitions of Government from us. ¶ And your Humble Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray &c ¶

James Little	}	Select Men
Sam ^l Kennedy		of
Benj Woodbridge Jun ^r		Newcastle

Newcastle May 6, 1782

Petition of Inhabitants of Sudbere, Canada.

To the general Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

¶ The humble petition of the subscribers Inhabitants of Sudbere Canada In the County of Cumberland & the Com-

monwealth of Massachusetts we renew our petitions Humbly Shewing for that whereas your petitioners have Bin much Distressed by the Injoyns coming to the Town last Summer & killing & robing & leading off our Nabors — which we have Never heard of them sence We are much distressed In our minds fearing least we Should faull a pray Into the hands of those Saviges Whose mercys is cruelty We most humbly Presume on your goodness being assured by sundry Examples of your Compassions that you will Think of and pity the Distressed therefore as an object Truly Deserving Compassion we most humbly Implore And petition this honored assembly To Consider many Difficulties we Labor under and grant us a garde of about Forty men To Scout up and down Androscoging river And Elsewhere: whare It shall be thought most Necessary. If we cannot have redress. We must Leave our Land on which we begin to raise our bread corn And our families must suffer for Lack of bread: It is an Excellent track of Land we are Loth to Leave it and That we may have redress is what we pray for therefore This honored assemblys Compliance will greatly oblige your humble servants and they as in duty bound will Ever pray

Eleaz ^r Twitchell	Josiah Bean	Isaac Hsley York
Eli Twitchel	Daniel Bean	Benjamin Russell
David Marshall	John York	James Swan
Sam ^l Ingulls	Jonathan Clark	Jesse Duston
Jonathan Bean	Jun ^r Jonathan Bean	

Sudbere Canada May ye 29 A. D. 1782.

Memorial of Lewis Fred^t Delesdernier.

Hono^{ble} Sir

Being appointed Agent to Colon^l Allen, Superintendent of Indian Affairs in the Eastern Department, who has Instructed me to Come and Receive what Government may be

pleased to Grant him in Consquence of his Memorails & Representations for which purpose I have already waited five Weeks.

The Several papers Respecting the said Department were Immediately on my Arrival, Laid before his Excellency, who judged it most Expedient to Lay them before the Honob^{le} General Assembly, the time of their meeting being at hand, I was directed to wait—

Since the Recommittment of Col^o Allans papers the Report haveing been Returned & during several day past Could not be taken up, and, fearing that thro' the Multiplicity of the Important Business now before the Honob^{le} Hous, the Session woud End before it could be Call up, Impressed with this Apprehension, as allso Colo^l Allan Deplorable setuation, not Only for want of necessary Assistance for Carrying on his Superintending business, but even destitute of subsistance his Store being Exhausted & himself as well as others in the Employ is Starving, Also Alarmd at the withdrawing of the Indians to S^t Johns, where (Father Henley) an Irish Priest is now Exerting himself to Retain them in the British Interest, an Insinuating Genius as he is may Probably make advantage of the Coolness of the Indians for the Americans Viewing them selves neglected—

These Several Considerations have Induced me to take the Liberty in the manner of Informing Your Hono^r of the Anxiety I am in to know the ditermination of Government on this Subject which Urges me earnestly to Intreat with all Submission that Col^o Allans Papers may be Acted upon, that a speedy & definitive Dicission may be Obtained, as soon as possible ¶ Having heard first the Report Red & finding some Meterial Matters not Attended to I further take the Liberty to Solicite those perticulars might be Reconsidered, that is Leave of Absence for Col^o Allan to Come westward to settle his accounts, several Applications have been but no

Answer could yet be obtained Also Leave to Remove Artillery & Ordnance Store to Passamaquoddy. Likewise the Supplies Solicited for Are Curtaild when the Whole are Inadquate for the purpose of Retaining the Indians in our Interest at this Juncture — ¶ My Solicitude to Answer the Intentions of Col^o Allan in procuring Aid to Enable him to pursue his Instructions from Congress I hope will not be deemed Amiss by Your Honour, I am a Stranger & rather unacquainted, in this Business, but seeing no Other prospect of perfering it to the Hono^{bl} House to which it is referd thro You encouraged me to this presumption of troubling Your Honour — ¶ I am with all Respect Your Honours Most Obed^t Hum^l Servant

Lewis Fred^k Delesdernier
Agent & Secretary to Col^o Allan.

Certificate in Favor Aaron Babcock.

Boston June 4 1782

This Certifies

That the sum of Four hundred & sixty five pounds nine shillings 9 pence became due from the late Board of War for this Commonwealth the ninth day of July one thousand seven hundred & seventy nine, to Aaron Babcock, Esq^r for the loss of one sixteenth part of the Ship General Putnam on the Expedition to Penobscot, which when paid to him will be in full for said sixteenth part and appurtenances.—

Thom ^s Ivers	} Com ^{rs} for settling the
Pet. Roe Dalton	
	a/c of the late Board of War

His Excellency the Governor & The Hon^l Council of the Commonwealth Mass^{ts}

In Council June 5th 1782

R^d & Advised that a W^t be drawn on the Treas^r in full of the above Certificate agreeable to Resolve of 28th Jan^r 1782

John Avery Secy.

Certificates in favor of Aaron Babcock Esq^r of his demand on board of War

June 5th 1782

Colonel Allan to the Governor.

Indian Eastern Department Machias June 4th 1782

Sir

My Last which I had the Honour of writing your Excellency was of the 26th March, wherein I mentioned my Intention of removing from hence, among the Indians—On preparing for my departure some difficultys Arising in this place, which had a Tendency of giving advantage to the Enemy in their pursuits for this Country, and not being able to procure Common necessarys for Subsistence, I posponed going untill I received Intelligence and supplys from the Westward; and Dispatched away my Two Eldest sons among the Indians as a pledge between us for the present—¶ A few days ago Arrived an Express from the Indians on S^t Johns River, with Strings of Wampum, to know what is Intended by the Americans & French with them, and to Agree upon a Generll Conference somewhere between this place, & S^t Johns—¶ By this received Intelligence that about 200 Men with Ten pieces of Heavy Cannon, and Two Mortars with large Supplys, were arriv'd at Fort How on S^t Johns, & there landed, allso Two Ships of War and Four other Armed Vessells. ¶ By the Information I have had previous to this, with a further Confirmation of the News, I amagine the Enemy Intends Fortifying different places on

S^t Johns River to keep an Open Communication to Canada that way, and allso to Extend to some of the Rivers on Passamaquoddy for other purposes — ¶ Twelve days ago an Express Arrived from Quebec, Brings Intelligence they were Fortifying the several posts on S^t Lawrence daily, Gen^l Haldiman was gone from Quebec to Mountreal — ¶ Five Weeks since, Arrived here from Halifax, One M^r Lecour a Young Gentleman of the Netherlands Subject of the Emperour of Germany, It appears he has been Traveling on Speculation — Came from England to Canada, by the papers I have in possession he has the greatest Recommendation — Has been as farr as Detroit on Lake Erie was Employ'd in some matters military under the patronage of Gen^l Haldiman. But upon His geting Acquainted with American affairs, and Detesting the Horrid proceedings of the Britains in Massacreing the Inhabitants in the Back Country, with some other very Substantial reasons, he left Quebec Last fall and by Various Methodes Gote thro by S^t Johns to Nova Scotia; from thence bro^t here by some Accadians of Cape Sables — He Possesses Every External Qualification of the Military and Gentleman, and appears otherways Qualify'd as a man of Superior Sence — Is well acquainted with Every Transaction in Canada during His Residence — He wants much to go Westward but afraid of Capture. As no suitable Opp^r Offers, and not Inclining to Lett him proceed without some person going who will see him safe to Boston — I shall detain him here for the present — ¶ I shall not Trouble further respecting our situation here, your Excellency must fully know it — Only as my Duty; would Acquaint you, that for want of Necessarys & Supplys, It is not in my Power to secure the Interest of the Indians — Nor to Prevent the Enemy from taking possession of this place and other parts of the Country should they attempt it with very small force — That an Open & free Communication & Correspondence is daily Increasing with the

Enemy & Countenanced By Every Ranque thro the Country
— I have the Honour to be with respect Your Excellencys
most ob^t Hb^t Sv^t

J Allan

His Excellency John Hancock Esq^r

In Senate June 13th 1782

Read & sent down

S Adams Presid^t

Resolve on Petition of John Lane.

Common Wealth Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives June 8 1782

On the Petition of John Lane in behalf of the Amascogin
Indians praying to be Suplied With a Number of articles —
Resolved — that the Commis^r Gen^l be & he is hereby directed
to procure the Following Articles (and Send them to Some
Suitable Person who Resides Near where Said Indians Live
to be disposed of to Said Indians at a Reasonable Price &
Receive the pay therefor in Skins or Furrs which the Com-
miss^r is Directed to Receive on Account of this Commonwealth)
Viz, Two Doz fish hooks 5 Guns Twenty Six pounds gun
powder one hundred pounds Buck Shott & Musket Ball —
Thirty Three Blankets one hundred Sewing Needles Thirteen
Indian Knives: Cloth Sufecent for Thirteen pair Indian
Stockins Ten Doz Flints, Fourteen yards Stuffs for Indian
Peticots, Twenty pounds Tobacco — Two pounds Vermilion,
Thirty Three Shirts & Shifts or Cloth Suficent to make them
and the Commissary Affores^d is directed to deliver such of
the foregoing Articles as he Shall Judge Necessary to the
Two Indians who are now in Boston — and, it is also, Re-

solved that Such of the affores^d articles as the Commissary Gen^l has not on hand — the Agent for this Common Wealth is directed to Suply provided he has them on hand —

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate June 10th 1782

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve on Petition of Elizabeth Hall, et al.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives June 10th 1782

On the Petition of Elizabeth Hall and John Freeland praying for Licence to make Sale mentioned for reasons therein set forth ¶ Resolved that the prayor of the Petition be Granted and that the Petitioners be & they are hereby fully Impowered to make Sale of said Land & Building in their petition mentioned for the most the same will Fetch and make & Execute a good & Lawfull Deed or Deeds thereof to the purchasor or purchasors they observing the Rules & Directions of the Law for the Sale of Real Estates by Executors & Adm^{rs} first giving security to the Judge of Probate for the County of Middlesex that the proceeds of said Sale Shall be applied in maner following viz the whole be put on Interest for the Benefitt of the widow & heirs of the Deceas^d and the Interest of One third part thereof paid annually to the Deceas^d Widow as Dower the other two third both principal & Interest to be paid to the several heirs in Legal proportion as they respectively arive at Lawfull age and the principal

of that part the Interest of which is assigned to said widow as Dower at her Decease to be in Like maner & in Like proportion to said heirs

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate June 18th 1782

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd John Hancock

Petition of Elizabeth Hall.

To the Honorable Senate, and house of Representatives for the Common Wealth of Massachusetts in General Court Assembled

¶ The Petition of Elizabeth Hall Relict, & Administrix on the Estate of Nathan Hall of Winthrop in the County Lincoln in said State, House right Deceasd, Intestate; and John Freeland of Hopkinton in the County of Middlesex, Guardian of all the Children of Said Deceased — ¶ Humbly Sheweth ¶ That the Real Estate of the said Nathan Containing One Hundred and Seventy acres of Land being Lott N^o Eleven in said Town, with Poor Small Buildings, much out of Repair; and there being Debts not Paid; the Personal Estate having been Applied to that Purpose Proves greatly Insufficient, the Discharge of which, will Require the Sale of a Considerable part of said Estate, and what will Remain, will be Dayly falling into Decay, in addition to the Decay which hath already Taken Place which is Very great, the Farm Being New, a great part of the Improvements Newly Clear^d up, and the Bushes not Subdued, a great part thereof is growing up, that in a Short Time the greatest Part of Said Improve-

ments will be Esteemed as unimproved Land, there being no fence but wooden which is greatly fallen into Decay already, that unless better managements take Place than is in our Power to Procure, Before the first male heir arrives of age (which is Fourteen years) the whole of said Farm must ly unimproved: your Petitioners who have the Care of Said Farm Reside Two Hundred miles Distant therefrom, which Renders it Difficult and Expensive to Look after it; they Humbly Conceive that said Estate cannot be Improv'd any way so advantageous to the heirs as the Value thereof in money at Interest might be; Debts Dayly Increasing by Interest, the Charges of Administration and Application to this Court, being Considerable in the whole, it is therefore Necessary that Sale Should be made as soon as may be—¶ Therefore your Petitioners Humbly Pray that they may be Impowered to sell the whole of said Estate (the said Elizabeth Retaining to herself the Priviledge of Dower in the Proceeds of Sale) under such Directions and Limitations as this Court Shall Judge Necessary & Expedient, and your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall ever Pray &c

John Freeland Guardian for the Children
Elizabeth Hall Administra—^x

Hopkinton April 10th 1782

The Subscribers (according to their best Knowledge & Information) are of the Opinion that it is Expedient the Prayer of the above Petition be granted —

Henry Mellen	{	Selectmen of Hopkinton
Walter M ^c Farland		
John Freeland		

Whereas Elizabeth Hall & John Freeland in their Capacities have Petitioned the General Court for the Sale of Land being the Estate of Nathan Hall Late of Winthrop in the County Lincoln Deceas'd,—the Subscribers upon Consider-

ing all the Pressing Circumstances attending the Widow & Children, is of the Opinion that it is Expedient, the Prayer of Said Petition Should be granted.—

Thomas Freeland } Grandfather to the
Children of said Deceas'd

Hopkinstown April 9th 1782

To the Com^{tee} for sale of Lands

Memorial and Petition of Simon Frye.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts To the Hon. the Senate and House of Representatives In General Court Assembled,—

the Memorial and Petition of Simon Frye in behalf of the Town of Fryeburg Humbly Sheweth that the Town of Fryeburg was not called upon to make a Return of their Ratable Property when the Valuation of 1778 was Settled for which Reason the s^d Town of Fryeburg was doomed double to what it ought to have stood at, as appears by the Settlement of the present Valuation. Your Memorialist begs leave further to observe that the General Court did on or about the 16th of February 1781 Pass a Resolve directing the Treasurer to Stay Executions from the Town of Fryeburg till the further order of the General Court Provided the s^d Town of Fryeburg Should Pay (in Sutable Season) the one half of all the Taxes Sett to s^d Town Since the Setteling of the then Valuation which was Directly Complied with in the Paper money taxes but Through the great Scarsety of hard money (and not through aney unwillingness to bear their Proportion of the Publick taxes) they Could not Pay in the one half of the hard money tax (as it is Commonly called) Untill the Treasurer Sent his Execution for s^d tax which Execution was for the whole Sum of the hard Money Tax Set to s^d

Fryeburg, and whereas it appears by the Settlement of the Present Valuation that the Town of Fryeburg did stand in the former tax Book double to what it ought to have stood. Your Petitioner Humbly Prays that this Court would take the matter into their wise Consideration and Grant Such Relief to the Town of Fryeburg as in Your Wisdom shall Appear Just and reasonable, and your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall Ever Pray.

Simon Frye

Boston June 13th 1782

Certificate of Auditing Com^{tee} Late Board of War.

This Certifies ¶ That the sum of Three hundred & sixty five pounds nine shillings & five pence, for the loss & hire of the Sloop Britania & appur. a Transport on the Penobscot Expedition and Mas. Wages, also fifty four pounds, sixteen shillings & three pence, for Interest thereon, amounting to Four hundred & twenty pounds five shillings & eight pence Specie is due to Robert Johnson; which when paid to his Attorney John Southworth, will be in full for the same—
£420.5.8

Thomas Ivers	} Com ^{tee} for Auditing the a/c ^{ts} of the
Peter Roe Dalton	

Boston June 13, 1782

His Excell^y the Governor & the Hon^{ble} the Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Council June 20 1782

R^d & Advised That a W^t be drawn on the Treas^y for £420..5..8 in full of this Certificate agreeable to Resolve of 28th January 1782

John Avery Sec^y

Certificate in Favor of Daniel Mitchell.

This Certifies ¶ That the sum of three hundred & eighty three Pounds, ten shillings, for the loss & hire of the Sloop Defiance & appur. a Transport on the Penobscot Expedition, and Masters Wages, also fifty seven pounds ten shillings & five pence for Interest due thereon, amounting to Four hundred & forty one pounds & five pence Specie is due to Daniel Mitchell, which when paid to his Attorney John Southworth, will be in full for the same—£441. 0. 5

Thomas Ivers	}	Com ^{tee} for Auditing the a/c ^{ts}
Peter Roe Dalton		of the late Board of War

His Excellency the Governor & the Hon^{ble} the Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts—

Boston June 13, 1782

In Council June 20th 1782

R^d & Advised that a W^t be drawn on the Treas^r in full of the above Certificate agreeable to Resolve of 28th Jan^r 1782

Jn^o Avery Sec^r

Resolve in Favor John Stone and William Grow.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In House of Representatives June 14th 1782

On the Petition of John Stone & William Grow of York in the County of York praying to be paid for sundry Necessaries delivered a Cartel going from Boston to Penobscot—

¶ Resolv^d That there be paid out of the Treasury of this comon Wealth to John Hopkins Esq^r Deputy Comissary general for the use of the s^d John Stone and William Grow the Sum of Eight Pounds Seventeen Shillings and four pence for sundry necessities deliverd a Cartel Bound from Boston to Penobscot as afores^d A

Sent up for concurrence Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate June 21, 1782

Read & Concurred wth Amendment at A

at A insert the said Hopkins to be accountable for y^e same

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives June 24th 1782

Read & concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

W^drawn 25th June 1782

Receipt of and Order in Favor of George Rendall.

York, November the 15th 1781

Recv^d of Cap^t George Rendall one Barrell of Beef & 2
Bushell of Meel for the use of the Prisoners on Board the
Penopscot Carteel

by me Joseph Hibbert

Please to pay to Cap^t George Rendall the Sum of four
Pound four Shillings Lawfull Money for the undermentioned
artickells

	£	s.	d
To 1 Barrell of Beef of 220 ^{wt}	3	12	0
To 2 Bushell of Meel	0	12	0
	£4	..	4 .. 0

To John Hopkins Esq^r
D C G of Prisoners at
Boston

pr
Joseph Hibbert

George Rendall
Attest M^r Stone } Com^t
William Grow } of York

*Order to Pay John Stone and W^m Grow.*York Nov^r 10th 1781S^r

Please to pay Cap^t John Stone & Cap^t W^m Grow two of the Comitty of York the Sum of three pounds thirteen Shillings & Six pence Lawf^t Mony it being for Vallue Rec^d in the following articles for the use of the Prisoners on board the Cardeel Penobscot — Viz^t

1 barrel Irish Beef	£3 : 0 . 0
2 bushell Meal	0 . 12 . 0
½ foot wood	3 . 13 . 6

You'l oblige S^r your Hum^t Serv^t

Joseph Hibbert

Master of the Cardeal

John Hopkins Esq^r Dept^y Commissary of Prisoners at Boston*Deposition of Joseph Hibbert.*

The Deposition of Joseph Hibbert master of the Schooner Penobscot a Cardeal bound from Boston to Penobscot with forty odd British Prisoners on Board and Edward Prince and Robert Perry Sailers on board saild from Boston the 28th of Oc^r last and the Wind heading them were Oblig'd to put in to Cape Ann the 29th where they by occasion of the Contrary Winds lay till the 8th of Nov^r instant and then came to Sale with the Wind at about West North West but the Wind shifting the same Day were Oblig'd to put in to York Harb^r the same day at about 4 o'Clock afternoon where by Contrary Winds they have been Obliged to lay

ever since and being out of Provisions applied to Cap^t John Stone one of the Com^{tee} of Correspondence there, who accordingly supplied us.

York Nov^r 10th 1781

Joseph Hibbert

Robert Perry Lieut of the

Edw^d Prince Master of the Packet Comet

York in New England Nov^r 10th 1781

Then the above named Joseph Hibbert Robert Perry & Edw^d Prince who sign^d the above Deposition personally appearing and after due caution made oath to the truth of the truth—before me

Dan^l Moulton

Jus Peace

Memorial of George Stillman.

To The Hon^{ble} Senate & Hon^{ble} House of Representatives

May it Please your Honors The Memorial of George Stillman, in behalf of himself and several others Humbly Sheweth, that your memorialist has on Board a Quantity of Publick Stores for the Garison at Machias, which is at this time Intirely distitute of any kind of Supplys, and having had the Promise of being Conveyed by the States Sloop Commanded by Captain Little In consequence of which your memorialist has been waiting some Considerable time for said Sloop, the like has been the Case with the Vessell bound with Publick Stores to Kenebunk we likewise are Inform'd the Said Sloop has been Some time Ready for Sea, & By the best account from the eastward we are able to obtain the Coast is Clear at the eastward except from Small Cruisers, a number of other Vessell are now waiting to take the Benefit of her Convoy. Your Memorialist humbly Prays your Honors to take the matter under your Consideration &

Point out such Steps as you in your Wisdom may think
Proper, & your Memorialist as in Duty Bounds, &c

George Stillman

Boston June 15th 1782

Petition of Inhab^{ts} of Sterlington.

June 1782

To the Hon^{ble} Senate, and House of Representatives of the
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants of a Plantation called Sterlington in the County of Lincoln Humbly Sheweth That this Plantation is very new, began in the year 1776 by one Family; in the year 1777 two more were added; and has since increased so that the whole number of Families and Settlers (including several single men) are now Fourteen the whole number of male Inhabitants above the age of sixteen doth not exceed twenty ¶ That we are scituate in the Wilderness at a great Distance from any other Settlements, tho' bordering on incorporated Towns, through which we have not as yet been able to obtain any Roads so as to get any of our Lumber or other Effects to market but with the greatest Difficulty — ¶ That in December 1778 a large barn belonging to Philip Robbins was consumed by Fire with almost all the grain raised that year by all the Settlers in the Place, together with a large Quantity of Hay, which flung the Inhabitants into great Distress, and occasioned the loss of ten Head of Cattle in the Winter That in the Year 1779 several of our Settlers turned out at the Siege of Majorbagaduce as Volunteers without any Pay; and in the Summer following by Advice of Gen^l Wadsworth we kept a Watch & Scouting Party at our own Expence

That several Persons formerly Settlers here have left their Habitations on account of the Difficulties in the East-

ward, and several of those now here, have been drove from their Farms on the Island, and other places by the Eenemy. That in the year 1779 We were assessed by the Town of Warren as adjacent Inhabitants, & their Constable took by Distress some of our most necessary farming Tools. That in the Year 1780 We petitioned the Hon^{ble} the General Court setting forth some of our Distresses and praying to be exempted from paying Taxes; in Consequence whereof the Hon^{ble} Court in 1781 ordered that we should be exempted; and that the articles taken by Warren should be returned; which Order has never been comply'd with, though often sought for and Requested, the same Reasons still Remain for our being excused from paying Taxes, which were set forth in that Petition, only that the Town of Waldoborough has granted us a Road to be laid out to their Settlement, but is not yet laid out nor opened

Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray your Excellency and Honors, that we may be excused from paying Taxes until we are in Circumstances of Ability equal with our Brethren in the Commonwealth, and then we will most readily pay our Proportion And your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c

Phinehas Butler	Joel Adams	Jesse Robbins
Philip Robbins	Richard Comings	David Robbins
Moses Hawes	John Butler	Ezra Bowen
Jason Ware	Ebenezer Robbins	
Matthias Hawes	Elisha Partridge	

Petition of Inhab^{ts} Fryeburg and Other Towns.

To The General Court of Massachusetts

The Memorial and Petition of the Committees of Fryeburg, Bridgton and Sudbury, Cannada, in the County's of York and Cumberland. Humbly Sheweth. that whereas

the Indians Did on the third and fourth days of august last make an assault on the Inhabitants of Sudbury cannada. and Places adjoining on and near Androscoggin River. and Did Kill Sculp Carry Captive and Plunder some of the Inhabitants. The Season is now come, that the Fronteers of the County of York and Cumberland are Exposed to the Depredations of those Saveges. The Large Lakes and Rivers that lay between Sudbury, Cannada and Qebeck. admits the Indians to have an Easy access to that Place. and that being almost the only avenue by which they can have access on the back Settlements of the County of York and Cumberland. and if Sudbury, Cannada is left by its Inhabitants to the Fronteer from Fryeburg to Brunswick will be Exposed and Sudbury, Cannada become a Lurking Place for the Savages. to the great Distress of these back Settlements being thus Exposed and momentarily Expecting those merciless Savages. to fall on us or our neighbour. Our humble Petition and Request. to the honorable Court. is that a Compeny of men might be imeadeatly raised and stationed at Sudbury, cannada to gaurd and Scout on the fronteers of the Countys aforesaid — We as in Duty bound shall Ever Pray

Moses Ames	}	Committee of Fryeburg
Nath ^l Merrill		
Stephen Purington		

Fryeburg June 15th 1782

Enoch Perley	}	Agent for Bridgton Committee of Sudberie Canada
Jonathan Clark		
Eleaz ^r Twitchell		

Resolves on Petition of David Strout et als.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

House of Representatives June 17th 1782

On the Petition of David Strout and others, Matrosses at Cape Elizabeth and Falmouth under the Command of

Brigadier General Wadsworth, praying that they may be allowed the same Wages as were allowed to other soldiers under his Command— ¶ Resolved that the prayer of the Petitioners be granted and that there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth to the said petitioners the same Wages as other Soldiers under General Wadsworth's Command receive: and the Committee on pay Rolls be and hereby are directed to allow the s^d petitioners to be made up in the pay Rolls accordingly; which Sums are to be charged to the account of the United States—

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate June 17th 1782

Read & Nonconcurrent

S Adams Presid^t

In Senate June 25th 1782

Reconsidered & concurred as taken into a New Draft

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives June 27th 1782

Read & Concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approvd John Hancock.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives June 17, 1782

On the Petition of David Strout & others, Matrosses of Cape Elizabeth & Falmouth, under the Command of Brigadier General Wadsworth, praying that they may be allowed the Same wages as were allowed to the Soldiers under his Command Resolved that the prayer of the Petitioners be granted, and that the Committee on pay Rolls be and they hereby are directed to make addition to the pay Rolls Al ready made out by said Petitioners, so as to make the same Equal to the Continental Establishment for Men that did duty in the Eastern parts of this Commonwealth under the command of said General, Agreeable to a resolve of the Gen-

eral Court of June 20th 1780 The same to be Charged to the Account of the United States—

Boston 21 June 1782

This may Certify that the party of Matrosses under Serg^t Strout & Brazier did Duty at Falmouth in 1780 in the same Manner as the other Troops under my Command at that Place
Peleg Wadsworth

To all whom it Concerns.

Petition David Strout et als Attached.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts To the Honorable Senate and Honorable House of Representatives, in General Court Assembled, May—1782.

Your Petitioners Humbly Sheweth, that they was inlisted as Matrosses at the Fort in Cape Elizabeth by a Resolve of the Hon^{ble} General Court, in the year 1780—and was put under the Command of Brig^{er} General Wadsworth, who had the Command in the Eastern Department, We did equal Duty with the other Soldiers under his Command—We your Petitioners Humbly pray that your Honors will allow us as much Wages p^r Month as was paid the other Soldiers under His Command—

David Strout } Serjent in behalf of the Guard

Witness

Memorial Simon Frye.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Boston June 17th 1782—

Memorial—¶ To the honorable the Senate the Hon^{ble} the house of Representatives Assembled—

¶ Your Memorialist begs leave to lay before your honors the following facts— ¶ The Town of Fryeburg did Inlist and muster four able body'd and Effective men and deliverd them to the Superintendent for the County of York, agreeable

to a resolve of the General Court, of the 2^d december 1780 — but it unfortunately happen'd that one of the men by the name of Daniel Gamage was afterwards Claimed by the Town of Cambrige and finally Credited to said Town — of Cambrige — your Memorialist finds an Execution against the Town of Fryeburg for the fines of two delinquent men, which must be a Mistake — Therefore your Memorialist Prays that your honors would be pleased to take the matter into Consideration and grant a short time of Indulgence for the purpose of percuring a man in lieu of Daniel Gamage — and your Mem^o further prays that the Treasurer of this Commonwealth may be directed to recall the Execution for the other Man in actual service.

And in duty bound will ever Pray

Simon Frye

Petition of Sam^l Sewall and Wife.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate June 18 1782

On the Petition of Samuel Sewall and Abigail his Wife praying for license to make Sale of sundry lots of land in their Petition mentioned for reasons therein set forth — Resolved That the Prayer of said Petition be so far granted as that the Petitioners be & hereby are impowered to sell One Lott of said land viz N^o 124 containing about One hundred Acres & lying on Presumsett River — And that a Deed of said Lotts executed in common form by said Samuel & Abigail shall be valid & effectual to pass the same the homage of said Abigail notwithstanding

Sent down for Concurrence S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives June 18 1782

Read & Concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd

John Hancock.

Petition Juniper Barthiaume.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

June 20th 1782

To the Honorable Senate and to the Honorable House of
Representatives in General Court Assembled

The Petition of Juniper Barthiaume Recollect, Missionary
to the Penobscot Tribe of Indians — ¶ Humbly Sheweth

That Your Petitioner was Troubled with Some of the said
tribe to Let Some of their Chiefs Come on A Visit to Boston,
But Your petitioner being sensible of the Difficulties that
would attend them & the Charges that would Arrise, he pre-
vaild On them not to Come That Your Petitioner has Some
Necessary Business to Transact here for the Said Tribe.
He prays Your Honors he may have Some Convenient Place
Provided for him for Support while he Can perform his said
Business. and your petitioner as in Duty bound Shall ever
pray &c ¶ Also That Your Hon^{rs} Would Grant him his
Wages and Rations for the time past, or that if it be agree-
able to your Honors to grant him some Cloathing in Lieu of
his Wages — And your Petitioner as in Duty &c

F Juniper Barthiaume Recollect

Resolve on Same.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the house of Representatives June 22, 1782

on the petition of Juniper Barthiaume Missionary to the
penobscot Tribe of Indians ¶ Resolve that his Excellency
the governor and Council Be Requested To take the matter
under their wise Consideration and make such allowance As
they in their wisdom may think proper — And it is further
Resolved that his Excellency the Governor with the advice
of Council Be Empowered to Draw Such sum or sums of

money out of the treasury for the above purpose as may be necessary

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate June 25th 1782

Read & Concurred as taken into a New Draft

Sent down for Concurrence S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives June 25th 1782

Read & concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives June 22, 1782

On the Petition of Juniper Barthiaume Recollect Missionary to the Penobscott Tribe of Indians — ¶ Resolved, that his Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby requested, with the Advice of Council, to provide for and accommodate the said Juniper agreeably to his Petition in Such manner as Shall by his Excellency be judged most proper, ¶ And it is further Resolved, that the Governor be impowered, with the Advice of Council, to draw such Sum of money out of the publick Treasury, as may be necessary for the purpose aforesaid: provided the sum thus drawn, do not amount to more than the value of the Wages and Rations which are already become due to the said Juniper, together with the additional sum of thirty Shillings to defray the Said Junipers expences during his present Stay in the Town of Boston.

Petition Selectmen of Warren.

To the Hon^{ble} Senate and house of Representatives for the Common Wealth of Massachusetts

¶ The Petition of the Selectmen of Warren in behalf of said Town In the County of Lincoln humbly Sheweth that

the Inhabitants are in a peculiar manner Impoverished and having no way to Convey our lumber to a Market which was the way that we Supported our famelies and paid our taxes and the Navigation being Cut of and Daly Exposed to the revage of the Enemy and having no way to pay our taxes renders it very Distressing to this town and as thare is an Execution Essued from the treasurer of this State and is in the high Sharivis hand Against this town for our Quota for the Continental army and as the Resolve of march the Second Cleared this County of their three years men we Perswad our Salves that their is Sum Mistake thus Circumstenced your petitioners bag your honores to take there Deplorable Case into your wise Consideration and Grant Such Relief as the good of the Common wealth and thair Sircumstances require and your petetiners as in Duty bound Shal Ever pray

Hopestill Sumner

William Bogs

Patrick Pepbles

Warren June 21, 1782

Resolve on Above.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives July 1782

On the petition of the Town of Warren in the County of Lincoln Resolved, That the Treasury of this Commonwealth be, & he is hereby directed to recal the Executions against the Town of Warren in the County of Lincoln, as the said Town being so contiguous to the Enemy at Penobscott make it exceeding difficult for them at this Time to pay the arrears due from them to Government. And that no Execution for past arrearages be issued, until the further order of the General Court. Any law or resolve to the Contrary notwithstanding

*Certificate from J. Pettingell Maj^r.*Boston June 24th 1782

This Certifies that John Fhi was delivered to me as a soldier for the Town of Fryeburg and is now in actual service, if living, and not deserted, the other two men were delivered to Col^o Crane and I veryly believe they are now in service

J Pettingell Maj^r*Resolve in re Vincent, Indian Prisoner et als.*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate June 26, 1782

Whereas it appears to this Court that John Vincent an Indian who is not a Subject of this Commonwealth & who lately came hither with the said Commonwealth the publick Affairs of the Nation to which he belongs is now confined in the Goal in Boston at the Suit of a private Person in Violation of the Law of Nations ¶ Resolved that the Sheriff of the County of Suffolk be & he hereby is directed & required forthwith to discharge the said John Vincent from his Confinement in the s^d Goal ¶

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives June 26, 1782

Read & concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives June 26th 1782

Ordered that M^r Frye of Fryburg & M^r Hill with such as the Hon^{ble} Senate shall join be a Committee to consider of the proper measures to be taken respecting the Indians from

the Eastern Tribes who are now in the Goal in Boston & report & that said Committee be directed to sit upon the business of their commission immediately

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate June 26th 1782

Read & Concurred & Nathaniel Wells Esq^r is join'd

S. Adams Presid^t

Resolve in Behalf of Town of Fryeburg.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

in the House of Representatives June 26th 1782

On the Petition and Memorial of Simon Frye in behalf of the Town of Fryeburg Praying for releef, an execution being sent against the Town of Fryeburg for the hard money tax socalled, and also for the fines of two Delinquent men both of which Executions appear to be double what they ought to have been therefore ¶ Resolved that the Treasurer of this Commonwealth be and he hereby is Directed to Cause the Execution against the Town of Fryeburg for the hard money tax so called to be returned satisfied they Paying one half the sum sett against said Town and the Caust of Execution and the Treasurer is also Directed to recall the Execution against said Town for the fines of two Delinquent men — Said Town of Fryeburg Procuring and Delivering to the Continental officer one good effective man within forty Day any Resolve to Contrary notwithstanding

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate June 28th 1782

Read & Concurred

S. Adams Presid^t

Approv'd

John Hancock

Resolve in Favor Counties York, Cumberland and Lincoln.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

in the House of Representatives June 27th 1782

Whereas it appears to this Court, that the Counties of York, Cumberland & Lincoln, are greatly embarrass'd in their lumber trade, & have suffer'd greatly in their fishery, in consequence of the Enemy's retaining possession of Penobscot — therefore resolved that the Treasurer of this Commonwealth be & he hereby is directed to stay his Executions against the Collectors in the afores'd Counties for the balance that may be due from them upon the first moiety of the Tax of three hundred & three thousand pounds granted in Oct^r last, untill the first day of Sept. next; & for the last moiety of the s^d tax, untill the first day of Nov. next —

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate June 29th 1782

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd

John Hancock

Report of Committee on Claims.

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate & House of Representatives in General Court Assembled

The Committee for settling the Accounts of the late Board of War, Beg leave to represent — That they were also appointed by the General Court to settle with the Persons who lost Vessells, or had demands on the Expedition to Penobscot, & directed to give Certificates for the Sums due to them, to his Excellency the Governor & the Hon^{ble} the Council, by w^h they received a Warrant on the Treasurer to be paid in a Consolidated Note or Loan, which has been acceptable to many of those who lost Vessells, & also to some of the Masters

of the Vessells for their Wages, but there are many of the Seamen whose demands are small & circumstances such that they cannot consent to Loan the Money due to them for their Wages— We therefore hope your Honors will direct such a mode of settling with them as in your Wisdom you may think best for their Relief

Thomas Ivers Peter Roe Dalton } Committee
Boston June 27, 1782.

Certificate and Resolve Relating to Claims.

Boston June 27th 1782

This Certifies,

That the sum of Fifty one pounds, fifteen shillings & ten pence for the Hire of Sloop Industry a Transport on the Penobscot Expedition & Eight Pounds eight shillings & four pence for Interest thereon to the 1st Ins^t amounting to the sum of Sixty Pounds, four shillings & two pence in specie, is due to Samuel Howard, which when paid will be in full for the same — £60. 4. 2

Thomas Ivers } Com^{tee} for Audit^s the Acco^{ts} of the
Peter Roe Dalton } late Board of War.

His Excellency the Governor & the Hon^{ble} the Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts —

In Council Dec^r 12th 1782

R^d & Advised that a W^t be drawn on the Treas^r in full of this Certificate agreeable to Resolve of 28th Jan^r 1782 —

John Avery Sec^r

Resolve on Petition James Avery.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives July 1, 1782

On the petition of James Avery, Praying That the Committee for Settling with the Army, may be directed to settle

with him as are Officers in Col^o Allan's Corps in the Eastern Department, in the same Manner, as Officers of his Rank in the Continental Army are settled with: ¶ Resolved, That the Committee for settling with the Army be, and they are hereby directed to settle with the Officers of Co^l John Allan's Corps, in the same manner as Officers in the Continental Army are settled with:— Provided, nevertheless, that the said officers shall receive Treasurers Notes for the whole amount of the Balance that shall be found due to them

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate July 2^d 1782

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd

John Hancock.

John Allan to Governor.

Indian Eastern Department Machias July 1st 1782

Sir

My Last to your Excellency was of the 4th Ulto a Copy of which I have the Honour to Inclose—¶ I am unacquainted with the Intention of the Hon^{ble} Congress Respecting this Department. It appears by the manner of procuring sup-
plys. It is not such an object of Importance; as when I was Honour'd with the Agency, I should be happy to know what is Intended—¶ Four months have Elapsed Since I did my-
self the Honour of requesting your Excellency for some necessarys to Carry on the Indian business, at that time we had nothing to Subsist on but what was borrow'd— The re-
quest being only for two months since which we have lived by borrowing, Consequently will take the greatest part that may Come of the whole to repay—¶ It is not for me to pry

into the Secrets of Government, but Lett the Intent be what it will, the want of timely supplys, will Cause the Indian as well as in War will be severly felt by it—The Enemy permitted in further securing the river S^t Johns & Places Adjacent to their great Advantage—Masts Sparrs & other Lumb^r Sufficiant to Load 12 sail of Heavy vessels on that river which might have been easily Demolished if the Least Publick Assistance had arrived—Inhabitants Daily moving to the Enemy—Young men | several having gone from this place | going to S^t Johns for Employ where good Wages are given Either for Sea or Land bussiness—Correspondence & Trade become Open & free with the Enemy—¶ Lowdar & Jere Preble of Penobscot Joined the Enemy, & the Indians of that river in Consequence Encouraged to Correspond & Trade, By which Including the whole Eastern Indians | are not to be depended upon at present—¶ I have frequently given Information of the Consequence of delaying matters—By this I may probably Appear to some Letegious—or from Lucretive Views or Idle Chimara's In drawing such Inferences, but Lett the Suggestions of mankind be as they will, or that however it may Effect reputation, I think it my Duty & shall pursue such Conduct in making known, as in Conscience I think may Effect the Savety or Honour of the State I am Employ'd in—¶ Duty, Honour & Zeal for the cause I am Employ'd in has Compelled me hitherto to be passive in my private situation. But I must take the Liberty to say I Doubt Whether it woud be Credited By any Gentleman in America, or Even in the Universe that are not on the Spot, what it has been for near Two Years, perticular for some Months Past—Still all I want on request is to be Enabled to do my Duty for the Service of the Country—I have the Honour to be with Great Duty & respect y^r Excellency's Most Obd^t hble Sv^t

J. Allan

Capt OBrien will Inform y^r Excellency of Particulars
¶ His Excellency John Hancock Esq^r

In Senate Sep^r 24th 1782 —

¶ Orderd, that this Letter with the Letter from Col^o
Lithgow be committed to John Pitts and Nath^l Wells Esq^r
with such as the Hon^{ble} House shall join to consider & report
what may be proper to be done thereon —

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Sept^r 24th 1782

¶ Read & Concurred & M^r Otis and Cap^t Stearns are
joined

Resolve on Petition of Fryeburg and Other Towns.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives July 2^d 1782

On the Memorial of the Committee of Fryburg Bridgton
& Sudbury Canada praying for a Company of men to be
stationed at Sudbury Canada for the Protection of the
Frontier of the Countys of York & Cumberland — There-
fore Resolved that there be raised in the Countys of York &
Cumberland Stationed on the Frontiers of said Countys a
Company of men to consist of one Lieutenant & thirty men ^A
and his Excellency the Governor is Requested to ^B Com-
mission the officer accordingly ^C and it is further Resolved
that there be allowed the same Wages & Rations as officers
and soldiers receive in the Continental Army & that the Com-
missary General Supply the afors^d men with Provisions or
Money as he shall Agree for there Rations as afforesaid

Sent up for concurrence

Nathaniel Gorham Speaker

In Senate July 5th 1782

Read & Concurred wth the Amendments at A B & C

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

at A insert "to continue in service till the first day of December next, unless sooner discharged"

B. insert, "appoint and" ¶ C. insert "and to give the necessary orders for carrying this Resolve into execution" —

In the House of Representatives July 5, 1782

Read & concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve Relating to Beef.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives July 3^d 1782

Resolved that the agent for receiving Beef in the County of Cumberland be and he hereby is directed to deliver to the Commissary General what beef he has in His Care in said County and that the Commissary General be & he hereby is directed to dispose of so much of the same at public or private sale as he shall Judge Necessary —

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate July 4th 1782

Read & concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd John Hancock.

Petition Nath^l Bosworth.

To the Hon^{ble} Senate & House of Representatives

Boston 4 July 1782

The petition of Nathaniel Bosworth humbly sheweth, that on the 27th of May last, your petitioner agreed with Richard Devens Esq^r Commissary Gen^l to carry a Quantity of Pro-

visions & Military Stores to Kenebeck, & Received them on bord his Sloop for that purpose, & was to go under Convoy of the State Sloop Winthrop which was then ready to Sail — your petitioner expected to have proceeded Immediately — but has been detain'd at great expence ever since waiting for said Convoy, on acco^t of his having the public property on Board — he has applied to the Commissary Gen^l for Liberty to reland said Stores, but could not obtain it, he has also applied to him for allowance for his detention, which the Commiss^y acknowledges he ought in Justice to have, but does not think himself authorized to make any without your honors directions. Your petitioner therefore relying on the Justice of your honors, humbly requests that you will authorize the Commissary Gen^l to make him a Reasonable allowance for his being thus detained or otherwise relieve your Injured petitioner in such a Manner as to your honors shall seem Meet & Just ¶ and as in duty bound shall ever pray

Nat: Bosworth

Certificate and Resolve in Favor William M^cGlathry.

This Certifies ¶ That the sum of sixty four Pounds, eight shillings & four pence, for the Hire of Sloop Abigail, a Transport, on the Penobscot Expedition and Masters Wages & Nine Pounds, eighteen shillings & seven pence, for Interest thereon to the 1st Ins^t amounting to the Sum of Seventy four Pounds six shillings & seven pence in Specie, is due to William M^cGlathry, which when paid will be in full for the same — £ 74 . 6 . 11

Thomas Ivers	}	Com ^{tee} for Audit ^s the a/c ^{ts}
Peter Roe Dalton		of the late Board of War

His Excellency the Governor & the Hon^{ble} the Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Boston July 6, 1782

In Council July 31 1782

R^d & Advised that a W^t be drawn on the Treas^r for
£74. 6—11 in full of the Certificate agreeable to Resolve of
21st Jan^r 1782

John Avery Secy

*Proclamation of George Third.
George Rex.*

George the 3^d by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King Defender of the Faith, Duke of Brunswic & Lunenburg, Arch-Treasurer of the Holy Roman Empire, Elector, &c. ¶ To all and singular to whom these presents shall come—Greeting—¶ The flames of war having already, too long waged in the various parts of the world, we would most earnestly endeavour rightly to settle and adjust all disputes and controversies, and restore and establish the general peace & tranquility—For which purpose we have thought fit to send to our good and most Christian Brother, a man equal to that important Trust—¶ Know ye therefore that We reposing full Confidence in the integrity, industry, knowledge, ability and experience of our trusty and well beloved Aliene Fitzherbert Esq^r have named, made and constituted, and by the presents, be it known, We do name, make and constitute him our true, certain and undoubted Commissioner, agent, and Plenipotentiary, giving and granting to him all and every power, right, and authority; and also our General as well as special commission, (Provided however that the Général shall not abridge the special, nor the special the general,) in the Court of our aforesaid good Brother, the most Christian King, For us and in our name, with the Delegates, Commissioners, Deputies & Plenipotentiaries, as well of their High Mightiness the States General of the United Provinces,

as of every other government whom it may concern, furnished with sufficient authority, as well singularly and separately as collectively and conjunctively, of meeting and conferring, and with them of treating, consulting, agreeing and concluding to restore, in every respect, a firm and lasting peace, harmony and sincere friendship, and for us and in our name, on the settlement of affairs, of signing everything, that shall be so agreed and concluded on, of making and executing any treaty or treaties or other necessary instruments of whatsoever number or quality they may be, and of receiving any other, which may happily tend to the concluding of the aforesaid work, in as ample manner and form, force and effect, as we ourselves could have done were we personally present; engaging and promising, on the word of a King, that we will, in the best manner, approve, accept, and confirm and singular the things, which may be transacted & concluded by our said Plenipotentiary; nor ever suffer the same, in whole, or in part to be violated or perverted — And for the greater assurance & confirmation thereof we have caused our great seal of Great Britain to be affixed to these presents, signed by our royal hand — which are given at S^t James, this twenty fourth day of July in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & eighty two & in the twenty second year of our Reign —

Joseph North to Governor.

May it Pleas your Excellency ¶ I have appointed Cap^t Samuel Brown of Boothbay a Deputie Collector of Excise und me, & Request your Excellency to approve of my Choice. ¶ I am with Great Respect your Excellency most obedient Hum^l Servan^t

Joseph North

Hallowell Aug. 6 1782 To his Excell: John Hancock Esq^r

Sentence of Rob^t Douglass.

Cumberland Ss. Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

¶ At the Supreme Judicial Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts begun & held at Falmouth in the County of Cumberland and for the Counties of Cumberland & Lincoln on Thursday the Fourth day of July A D 1782, by adjournment to that time from the Tuesday next following the fourth Tuesday of June (being the second day of said July) A. D. 1782 by two of the Justices of the same Court by writs & Proclamations according to Law — ¶ The Jurors for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts upon their oath Presented that Robert Douglass of Falmouth in the County of Cumberland Yeoman on the seventh day of February last past at Pownalborough in the County of Lincoln with force and Arms one Silver Watch of the Value of four Pounds of the Goods and Chattels of one Ebenezer Whittier then and there being found feloniously did take Steal and Carry away to the damage of the said Ebenezer Whittier in Evil Example to others to offend in like Case against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth aforesaid and their Laws in such Case made & provided; and now in this present Term before the Court here cometh the said Robert Douglass & is set to the Bar & has this Indictment read to him he says that thereof he is not guilty & for Trial puts &c; a Jury is immediately impannelled viz Daniel Dole, Benjamin Parker, John Haize, Joseph Sawyer, Ephraim Hunt, Samuel Whitmore, Jonathan Osgood, James Cargill, James Johnson, John Tukey, Abraham Tyler Jun^r and Peter Libby who being Sworn to Try the issue who after hearing all Matters and things concerning the same, return their Verdict & upon their oath do say that the said Robert Douglass is guilty — And thereupon It is Considered by the Court that the said Robert Douglass pay Ebenezer Whittier the person Injured Eight Pounds which with the goods Restored amount to three Times the Value of

the Goods Stolen — that he be Whipped on his Naked back at the Public Whipping Post Twenty Stripes Pay Costs and Stand Committed till this sentence be performed — Cost Taxed at Twelve Pounds fifteen Shillings & two pence. A True Copy as on Record

Attest

Cha^s Cushing Clerk

Remittance of Sentence of Rob^t Douglass.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts ¶ To all the Sheriffs of the several Counties within this Commonwealth aforesaid and all other Officers and faithful Subjects to Whom these presents shall come ¶ Greeting —

¶ Whereas Robert Douglass of Falmouth in the County of Cumberland Yeoman was at the Supreme Judicial Court of the Commonwealth aforesaid begun and held at Falmouth in the County of Cumberland and for the Counties of Cumberland & Lincoln on Thursday the fourth day of July A. D. 1782 by adjournment to that time from the Tuesday next following the fourth Tuesday of June (being the second day of said July) A. D. 1782 by two of the justices of the same Court by Writs and proclamations according to Law, was convicted of theft, Whereupon the said Court Ordered that the said Rob^t Douglass be adjudged to pay Eb^r Whittier the person injured Eight pounds which with the Goods restored Amount to three times the value of the Goods stolen; that he be Whipped on his naked back at the public Whipping post twenty Stripes, pay Costs and stand Committed 'till this sentence be Performed — And Whereas the said Robert Douglass has humbly supplicated the Grace & favor of this Commonwealth for the remittance of the said Sentence so far as it relates to the said Corporal punishment.

I do therefore by and with the Advice of Council remit to the said Rob^t Douglass that part of the said sentence above mentioned —

In testimony whereof I have caused the public Seal of this Commonwealth of Mass^{ts} to be hereunto Affixed — Witness this Eighth day of Aug^t A D 1782, & in the 7 Year of the independ^{ce} of the United States of America ¶ By his Excellency's Cons^t With the Advice & Consent of Council

Certificate and Award in Favor Joseph Reed.

This Certifies ¶ That the sum of Five hundred & seventy two pounds ten shillings & three pence, for the loss & hire of the Sloop Sally John Reed Master, a Transport on the Penobscott Expedition taken into the service there by order of General Lovell, & the sum of Ninety three pounds, four shillings & four pence for Interest thereon to the first Instant, amounting to Six hundred & sixty five pounds, fourteen shillings & seven pence, in specie is due to Joseph Reed, which when paid will be in full for the same — £665 - 14.7

Thomas Ivers	{	a/c ^{ts} of the late Board of War
Peter Roe Dalton	}	Com ^{tees} for Audit ^s the

His Excell^y the Governor & the Hon^{ble} the Council of the Commonth of Massachusetts Boston August 7, 1782 —

In Council Aug^t 15th 1782

R^d & Advised That a W^t be drawn on the Treasury for £665.14.7 in full of the within Certificate agreeable to Resolve of 28th Jan^y 1782.

John Avery Sec^y

George Washington to Governor.

Head Quarters 10th Aug^t 1782

Sir

Your Excellency will permit me to introduce to your particular Notice & Attention M Gen' D Choisey, who will have the Honor to present this Letter—¶ As an officer old in Command, & eminent for his Service, he has the Honor to be placed at the head of the Troops destined for the Expedition proposed by the Marquis de Vandreuil against Penobscot, provided that Enterprise should be attempted—¶ Any Civilities which your Excellency shall be pleased to shew him, will be no more than his Merits demand—and will be most gratefully accepted by ¶ Your Excellencys ¶ Most obedient & ¶ Most humble Servant

G:° Washington

George Washington to Gov. Hancock.

Head Quarters 10th Aug^t 1782

Sir—

Your Excellency will be informed by B Gen' DeChoisey, who does me the Honor to be the Bearer of this, that the Marquis D° Vandreuil, with a fleet of his most Christian Majesty's Ships of War, may be soon expected in the Harbour of Boston.—¶ By a Correspondence which has passed between the Marquis & the Count de Rochambeau (a Copy of which I have been favored with by the latter) I am informed that the french Admiral has it in Contemplation to strike a Coup de Maine upon the port of Penobscot, while his ships are to continue in your neighbourhood; requesting the Opinion of the Count upon the practicability of the Enterprise—It appears also from the same Correspondence, that the french General has given a partial, yet pretty plain disapprobation of the Attempt; and has referred him to my Opinion on the

subject; which the Count de Rochambeau, in his Letter to me, particularly requests me to communicate to the Marquis on his Arrival—¶ However desirable the Object may be, to dispossess the Enemy from that troublesome post, yet under present Circumstances, & with present prospects, I have not judged the Attempt to be desireable; and have given the french Admiral my opinion decidedly against it.—My particular Sentiments & Reasons on the Subject, will be conveyed to you in the Copy of my Letter to the Marquis, which I do myself the Honor to inclose to your Excellency, for your own Observation, & that of the Executive of your State.—¶ If notwithstanding my Sentiments & present Appearance, other & more favorable Circumstances should turn up; or prospects should so alter, as to make the Attempt appear practicable in the Judgment of the french Admiral and General de Choisey as also in the Opinion of your Excellency & your Executive, I have no Doubt but that your State will afford every Assistance in the most expeditious manner, in Men, Artillery Military Stores &c that may be found necessary to carry the Operation into effect—The Distance of the Army from Boston, with other Circumstances, will render it impossible to give any timely Aid from this Quarter—¶ I have the Honor to be ¶ Your Excellencys ¶ Most Obedient and ¶ most hum^{ble} Servant ¶

G:° Washington

His Excellency Governor Hancock.

George Washington to Marquis De Vandreuil.

Head Quarters, Newburgh Aug^t 10th 1782

Sir

I have the honor to address you, at the particular request and in consequence of a Letter, which I have just received from His Excellency the Count de Rochambeau, inclosing

to me the Copy of a Correspondence between him & you relative to the operations of the Fleet under your Command on the Coasts of N. America;—Wherein you mention to him, a wish, that while your Fleet should remain in the Neighbourhood of Boston, you might be enabled to make a stroke at the Enemy's Post of Penobscot;—and in the discussion of which point, the Count de Rochambeau has referred you to my opinion upon that Enterprise. ¶ While I applaud Sir! the generous disposition declared in your Excellency's Intentions for our assistance; Candor requires me to be very explicit upon the subject,—I am obliged therefore to say, that it is my decided opinion, that considering the Hazards that will attend the Enterprise, the object is by no means equal to the Risque that will attend the attempt. ¶ Among many reasons, which influence my mind in forming this Opinion, the great & very principal one, appears from Your Excellency's Letter to Count ^{de} Rochambeau, where you mention to him, that you expect immediately to be followed into these Seas by a Superior British Fleet.—Admitting this event to take place, and that your Fleet Should have proceeded to Penobscot, (which is near One hundred Leagues from Boston, the only secure Harbour which you will find upon all those Eastern shores,) and Lies almost at the bottom of a deep Bay;—it appears to me that Your Excellency's Fleet will be placed in the greatest Hazard of being totally destroyed;—for in that situation they will be compleatly imbayed;—and a brisk S Westerly Wind, which will be most favorable for the British Fleet from N York, & which would bring them into the Bay in a short time, would be directly opposed to your Escape:—so that was your Excellency to receive the earliest Intelligence of the Enemy's Fleet leaving N. York, under such circumstances, yet you could not avail yourself of the Information,—and at the same time, would be placed in a position where no Harbour or Fortification

could give your Excellency any protection or shelter. ¶ Was this argument of Danger to His Most Christian Majesty's Ships, not sufficient to govern Your Excellency's mind,—I could mention, that the time that must be employed on this attempt, will probably be much greater than you seem to apprehend;—A Month is as short as I should estimate, taking together all the necessary preparations & little cross events that must probably interpose; for I have not an idea of the object being attained by a Coup de Main, —as I am lately informed by good intelligences that the Fort is the most regularly constructed & best finished of any in America, is well situated, and Garrysoned by the 74th Reg^t, consisting of 800 Men;—which will require a regular Seige, to be conducted by cautious approaches, with a considerable addition of Men to the number of Troops which are on board your Excellency's Fleet, with their necessary Cannon & Mortars, Stores &c, the whole of which in all probability, was the Seige to be undertaken, & the Fleet obliged to make a sudden departure, must all be sacrificed; as their retreat by Land (as has been heretofore experienced) would be almost totally impossible and impracticable; to be effected thro' a Country which is as yet, a mere Wilderness, of large extent & difficult passage. ¶ Even supposing the best, that the attempt should succeed & the object be gained, I am much in doubt, whether without a superior Naval Force to be maintained on these Coasts, we should be able to retain the post,—as it would ever be subject to a renewed attempt from the Enemy, in case we should keep up a Garrison there;—or in case of evacuation they might at any time, repossess the post, & continue the same annoyance, that they now give us. ¶ Under these considerations (without giving you any further trouble) it is my decided opinion, that the object in contemplation is not of importance, sufficient to justify the hazzards & risques, which must probably be encountered in the attempt to obtain

it. ¶ While I offer you this opinion Sir! I beg your Excellency will esteem it as coming from a Heart not only candid in its Sentiments, but at the same time penetrated with a sense of the highest gratitude to your Excellency for the noble offer of your assistance, which it is our misfortune, that under present circumstances, we are not able to avail ourselves of. ¶ After giving Your Excellency the foregoing opinion, upon the present appearances,—I have only to add,—that in case circumstances should turn up so differently to our present Ideas, that you should, with the advice of Gen^l de Choisey, think the attempt practicable, I can only refer you to the State of Massachusetts, for such aid in Men, Cannon, Mortars, & Stores, as you shall judge necessary; it being the only practicable mode in which I can cooperate with Your Excellency's designs,—and this Recommendation shall be most cheerfully given. ¶ The Cheval^r de la Luzerne has requested me to establish a regular Chain of communication between my Head Quarters & Boston, for the purpose of giving the earliest Intelligence of every minute circumstance that may occur respecting the arrival or operations of the British Fleet at New York; and for the purpose of free intercourse with you or any other circumstance that may turn up.—You may depend, Sir, that this establishment shall be immediately formed,—& that every service I can possibly render Your Excellency, in this or any other way in my power, shall be most cheerfully afforded. ¶ I have the Honor to be &c ¶ Signed ¶ G^o Washington
 Marquis De Vaudreuil—

Ezekiel Pattee to Governor.

To his Excency John Hancock Esqr and to the Hon^{bl} the
 Senet and the hous of Resepantves

¶ I do hearby Sartify that the Behavear of Juneper
 Baththevon the Franch Preast Sance his Rasadance with the

Endens hath Been that of an honest mans in Regard to the Endens. and that I Never heard nor Dow I Beleve that he Ever mad aney Deference Between the Inhabitents and the Endens. But Sarten I am that the Endens has Been las trublsom to the Satlement Sance his Rasadence among tham than Before

Ezekiel Pattee Town Clark
Winslow August 10th 1782.

Certificate of Jeremiah Colburn.

These may certify whom it may concern that I formerly resided on Penobscot River & about seven months ago my House was burned by Accident or the Negligence of the person who lived in it & not by the Indians or the instigation of the french Instructor —

Jere^{ah} Colburn
Winslow Aug^t 14th 1782

William Lithgow to the Governor, and Certificates.

Georgetown, Kennebec Aug 13th 1782.

Sir

As I have had the honor of but a very slight acquaintance with your Excellency, I should not have ventured to address you on the present occasion, was it not at the earnest & repeated solicitations of the Indians, who, from the circumstance of my having formerly resided among them at Fort Halifax in quality of Truckmaster, think they may repose some confidence in me, & that I am persuaded the public are deeply interested in a proper attention to their views & inclinations at the present critical moment—¶ It is needless

to inform your Excellency, who, I imagine was early acquainted with the Measures as well as the Motives which led to it, that soon after the establishment of the british Garrison at Bagwaduice Supplies were voted by Government for the eastern Indians, & ordered to be lodged at Fort Halifax, a Truckmaster & Interpreter were appointed & a french Instructor engaged, & sent down to reside among them, in order I presume to conciliate the affections of the Indians towards the Inhabitants of this Commonwealth.

However well adapted this measure was in itself, to the attainment of the important end proposed, yet it is extremely obvious that without a judicious appointment of both Instructor & Truckmaster no valuable consequences can be expected to result from it to the public ¶ That the Government were fortunate in their Choice of Instructor I am fully persuaded, both by the Indians themselves over whom he has gained a peculiar ascendancy & who discover an inviolable attachment to his person, & also by the information of some of the first Characters in this County, who give it as their opinion, that ever since his residence among the Indians he has made it his invariable & earnest endeavour to direct that ascendancy so as but to answer the end of his appointment, by cultivating a friendly intercourse between the Inhabitants & Indians, & persuading the latter to think favourably of our Government, in which he has hitherto been Successful. ¶ From this attachment to the person & Character of their Father (as they call him) it is owing, that the Indians at this moment consider his late dismissal by the General Court, as a peculiar grievance & a certain indication of an increasing unfavourable disposition in our Government towards their Nation, which they imagine must have arisen from the partial & injurious representations of some interested or designing person in this part of the Country, & have therefore sent one of their Chiefs who is the bearer of this,

to make enquiry into the matter. ¶ Whether it would be true policy in the General Assembly to discharge him finally I am not to determine, but I think it is a fact that cannot admit of a doubt, that the retaining or reinstating him in his former Office among the Indians, will be the most effectual & perhaps the only means of preventing that disaffection in their minds, which the artful & inimical, in various parts of the Country will sedulously endeavour to improve to the worst purposes. ¶ As to the present Truckmaster at Fort Halifax I have little or personal knowledge of him, but whatever may be his real Character it is very certain that the Indians are greatly dissatisfied with his conduct, & directly accuse him with various species of fraud in the course of his trade with them, & with applying the public Stores intended for the Indians to his own private purposes — whether those charges be true or false I am utterly ignorant, but it appears to me to be a matter of very considerable importance to the public, that the Truck master should not only be an honest man, but one who is capable of conforming himself to the particular humours of the Indians, without which, it will be impossible to give them satisfaction; but perhaps it may be a question with the Legislature whether, all circumstances considered, it will be eligible to continue the Indian Trade at Fort Halifax; for my own part I believe, (& I am very far from being singular in my opinion) that the continuance of that trade can answer no very beneficial purpose to the public, as very few of the indians now visit that place for that or any other purpose; at the same time that the Commonwealth is put to a considerable annual expense in transporting provisions & Supporting two persons with pay & rations; but if it should be the opinion of Government that the discontinuance of the indian Trade at Fort Halifax would be disadvantageous to the public, I beg leave to recommend to your Excellency's notice a Major Pattee who lives near

the spot. ¶ This Gentleman is a person of integrity & responsibility & will probably give good satisfaction to the Indians, & is willing to undertake the business for no other consideration than the occupation of the Fort & the improvement of ten Acres of land adjoining the same, which must be a considerable saving to the public—

If any thing contained in the foregoing representation can be improved to public advantage I have obtained my end, if not I have the consolation of having done my duty—¶ With sentiments of the most perfect respect, ¶ Your Excellency's Obedient Serv^t

William Lithgow

To whom it may concern ¶ These may certify that we have had some acquaintance with Juniper Barthiume Recollect, since his residence among the eastern Indians—¶ As to his private Character, we believe it to be that of an honest Man, & are firmly persuaded of his friendly Attachments to the American States & fully convinced that he has rendered essential service to the public by his constant earnest, & hitherto effectual endeavours, to cultivate & maintain a friendly intercourse between the Indians & the Inhabitants in this part of the Country ¶ We therefore give it as our Opinion that his further continuance among the Indians, in quality of an Instructor, will probably be attended, with happy & important consequences to the public.

James Howard Esq^r

William Howard L Co^l

Hallowell Aug 13th 1782

Joseph North Col^o

Sam^l M^cCobbs Col^o

Fort Hallifax June 7 1782

This may Certifie that I saw a paper signed by Four of the Penobscot Indians Certifies that Juniper Berthiaume Recollect Did not advise the Indians to kill the Cow which thay Did Kill belonging to the Inhabitants on penobscot River.

p^r Josiah Brewer Justice Peace.

Certificate of Auditors in Favor Andrew Reed et al.

This Certifies ¶ That the sum of Five hundred & four pounds one shilling & three pence for the loss & hire of the Sloop Townsend taken into the Service at Townsend July 22, 1779 as a Transport on the Expedition to Penobscot, by order of General Lovell also the Sum of Eighty two pounds, one shilling & five pence, for Interest thereon to the first Instant, amounting to the sum of Five hundred & eighty six pounds two shillings & eight pence in Specie, is due to Andrew Reed & Jn^o Sevey which when paid to Henry Hodge their attorney, will be in full for the same—£586.2.8

Thomas Ivers	}	Com ^{tee} for Audit ^s the Acco ^{ts} of the late Board of War.
Peter Roe Dalton		

His Excell^y the Governor & the Hon^{ble} the Council of the
Commonwth of Massachus^{ts}

Boston August 14, 1782—

In Council Aug 16th 1782.

R^d & Advised that a W^t be drawn on the Treas^r for £586.2.8 in full of the within Certificate agreeable to Resolve of 28th January 1782.

John Avery Sec^y

Report of Sam^l Carr, Muster Master.

Wells Aug^t 20th 1782

Mustered and Received of Captⁿ John Low, for the Town of Coxhall, A Certain Asa Lapell, John Foster & Ebenezar Stimson Cousens; Recruits inlisted for the Term of three Years,—for the Quota Order'd to be Rais'd By a Resolve of the General Court, December 2^d 1780)

Sam^l Carr Muster-Master

*Col. Hunter to Governor.*Broad Bayse Aug^t 20th 1782

Sir

I wrot your Honor by Cap^t Little Commander of the State Sloop; that Supplies were wanting for my Department as soon as may be; and Desired by said Gentlemen, you would send the Stores by Cap^t Little or some other vessel as soon as possible, by reason my provisions are almost expended; therefore I Desire you to send an assortment by Cap^t Ulmer without fail in order that I may act Bennisfshal to the public Good and satisfactory, to the spirit inhabitation of this place Cap^t Ulmer will Give your Honor the perticulars of what I want for this Command, ¶ from your Honors Very Hum^{bl} Servant James Hunter Col^o Comd^r

*Memorial of Soldiers to Col. Allan.*Machias August 22nd 1782

Sir

Your long Residence in this Department as an officer, has given you such a thourough knowledge of our Circumstances, that we looked upon you, to be the most sutiable person we coud apply to, to represent our Situation to proper Authourity for Redress of our grievances, and for that Purpose have invested you with our full power ¶ You are fully Sencible that we have Served many years in the Department, and the Commanding officer has repeatedly from year to year, on the renewal of our engagements, promised us on behalf of Government that we should be Supplied with a Suit of Cloth each year, at the expence of Government. ¶ In May 1781 we engaged during the war & were assured of Receiving the same Clothing, pay & Rations, the Established troops Received, but we are again disappointed, for of Clothing we Received but part of the last year, hatts, shirts stockens, &c.

we received none; and for the present year have Received no kind of Clothing on Governments acc^t, a great part of the time we have been kept upon half allowances & some part of the time have not had any, there is so few of us that our Duty has been Excessive hard, our Sufferings the last Winter & Spring was so great that it is not in the power of words to express it, both on acc^t of provision and Clothing. We have (after suffering every thing but Death) for a few weeks past had some bread & meat Delivered to us by the Commanding officer, but that we are again Deprived of the meat being all gone, & only a scanty pittance of bread remains for us, and that we expect soon to be deprived of. ¶ We are ready and willing to do our duty as good soldiers, if we can only obtain what is stipulated to us on behalf of Government. winter is fast approaching and excepting we can be furnished with our proper clothing and Rations, we must perish. we therefore Desire you to aply to Government on our behalf for what we are justly intitled to from them, and that it may be put into such hands that we Can be sure of haveing them, we expect that you will pay your self for your trouble out of what you may receive on our accompts, either money or other articles

We are Sir, Your most Respectfull Humble Servants

Samuel Russell Sarg^t

John × Briant

Doctor × Edwards

Jonathan × Engserll

Jonathan Niles

Sam Davis Bryant

Luther × Holmes

Vest W^m Albee. Lieut of the said Company

Col. Allan to Richard Devens Esq^r.

Indian Eastern Department, Machias August 22nd 1782.

Sir

Agreeable to the Note of the General Court, I find there is One Hh^d Mollases, One d^o Rum. One d^o of Tobacco &

One Cask of wine, Deficient. These Articles are of the Greatest Consequence in the Indian business. The Indian allways depending upon such matters when Assembled in Conferences, and its of the greatest damage in pursuing the business, the want of it, as well as the Appearance of Indignity upon the United States of which there is to much talk of, this way—I must pray the favour Sir that you will be kind enough to forward them, or what you Can by the first Opp^r Consigning them to me. I must again Earnestly repeat the favour. As allso the Back allowance of rum &c which will do better in provision kind—Cap^t OBrien who Carry's this, will have a Vessell at Newbury ready to return in Four Weeks probably in a shorter time, Coud it be possible to have them procured at Newbury to Come with him, it woud be Esteemed the greatest favour—¶ I am more solicitous to have them now sent, on Account of the very Great business I have to go thro with the Indians, before I go Westward, which I expect will be by the Last of Next Month—¶ With respect I am Sir Your Most H^{bl} Svt

J. Allan

Rich^d Devens Esq^r

Col. Hunter to Governor.

Head Quarters Waldoborough Aug^r 22 1782

Sir—

I wrote your Excellency, by Cap^t Little the 30th of July, where I menched the inducements of my leaveing Coxes Head, and the Great necessity, of haveing supplies sent as soon as may be; I have takeing post at this place in order to obstruct the Designs of our Enemy, but if I am Cut short of said suplies it will Deprieve me of executing any plan I form for the public Good; the inhabbitance of these parts are dailey tradeing to the enemy, I shall use every method to obstruct them and shall put my men in the position of Scouting

partyes for that purpose; but being Deprieved of part of the whale boats ordered by the General Court; put it out of my power to prevent their trade and Commerce; as I would wish to do; the majority of the inhabitance of this are enemies to the Cause of our Country, and have made attempts at several different times to take of the Guards, and I Dailey expect they will attempt to head a party of the enemy in order to attack me! therefore as the public Good in some measure depends on your Excellency's; Compliance with my proposal, I should be Glad to have the remainder of the whail boats together with the supplies sutible to make any excursions that may appear Bennefishal to the public Good Consistent with my Command, your Excellency, orders to the Commisary General for suplies no Doubt, will be answerd ameadetly, I shall in a few days proceed to Georges and appoint a place of randovoze, and should think my self happy to have your Excellencys oppinion on this matter, and should you think of any place preferable to Georges; I should be glad you will write me as soon as possible in order that I may act satisfactory to your Excellency and for the Public Good ¶ From your Excellencys Verry Hum^{ble} Ser^{vant}

James Hunter Col^o

N. B. this will be handed to your Excellency, by Cap^t Ulmer which Gentleman will give you further perticulars

J. H

Col. Allan to Governor.

Machias Aug^t 22^d 1782

Sir

I do myself the Honour of Informing Your Excellency that in consequence of my ditermination & Agreement with the Indians, as soon as Supplys Arrived I proceeded Eastward to pursue the Business of my Agency, I had a Conference with the Passamaquody & some of the S^t John Tribe

Near the River S^t Croix—¶ In Answer to the Speech I made them / perticularly the S^t John / they signifyd much surprise at the Difficulty which Arise in supporting the Department. After they had Continued so long for the Defence of the Country—It Appears they have from time to time, been fully Informd of the Obstacles and obstructions in procuring necessarys for the Subsistance of the persons in the Employ, & Indeed the Report has Extended thro Nova Scotia & every transaction is as well known in Halifax as Boston—to Conclud with them, from the Indigent State of Matters this way, the Horrid & Villainous conduct of Traders towards them. The whole of the S^t Johns Tribe have come to a ditermination to Remove Imidatly to that River; some of the Passamaquodys: have gone to Canady & the rest Gone on the Lakes, as I coud give them no other Encouragement I was ditermind to continue myself as Near them as my safety woud permit, to Advise & Consult during my stay in the Service—¶ On the 18th Arrived at my Quarters, Michel Augustine, Chief of the Villiage of Erecherbucts a Princapel Sachem of the Micmac Tribe— also a Chief of Cape Briton, with other young men, the former well Known in Nova Scotia for his sagacity as a Politition & Ability as a Warrior, the bussiness they are Upon is to Know the certainty of News & the State of matters between America & France— As also to make Complaint Against the Small Boats for Plundering, the Traiders that Live Amoung them “They say they woud Reather Chuse to Trade with the Americans then the English, if Any Came Amoung them woud defend them against the English to the Last, but necessity Compels them to trade with Some Body, and before their Eyes, have seen property, themselves had a Right to, taken Away, but from a Principle of Friendship to America has made no Opposition;—the Conduct of this Chief, and the Villages Under his Immediate Care is well Known to many besides my self, during the wars,

in Opposing & thwarting upon all Occation, the British Government when Attempting to Employ the Indians, & so much in his Zeal, that even in that Country where the Britons have the Preheminance, No Trader dares Go Among them, who does not express Sentiments in Favour of America—¶ I Transmit this Account to your Excellency at the Request of the Chief, It lyes with Government to Judge & order what is right; I woud Only observe that had the Indians followed the Example of these Plunderers & Illicit Traders / Many of Whome takes turne alternately in pursuing both Methods as Opportunity offers for Gain / The whole Eastern Country as well as Nova Scotia, woud verry Probably be in a State of Ruin & Desolation or Lost to the States— ¶ The Indians being desirous of hearing & Seeing as Much as Possible, I concluded to Accompany them to Machias which is the cause of my being here at Present, shall Return tomorow towards S^t. Johns were I shall Continue untill Bussiness will permit my going Westward ¶ Your Excellency / your Letter of the 8th Ult^o which I had the Honour to Receive / Appears to be Against my going Westward at this Juncture—I trust at the Same Time Your Excellency will be pleased to Consider my setuation—On my private Bussiness shall be silent—woud only observe as a Public Officer, the Great & Extensive Bussiness I am Intrusted with, the Varrious Demands which Necessarly attends it requires more supplys and more Regular, I am satisfyd with what Ever Government is Please to Send & shall Use every Economy—But your Excellency must be sensible, that I have only received Bread & Meat for 25 men for two Months & 50 Bushels since Last March for the Whole Bussiness—I have daly Employ^d what Consuems 20 Rations besides Contingencye—I have to attend at the several Villiages of Indians to whome I am Obliged to Give something. But not to trouble Your Excellency more, will only take the liberty to say that its a Matter — Impossible for

me to pursue the bussiness Agreeable to the Orders of Congress in this setuation — ¶ I am verry Unhappy for the Uneasyness Given Your Excellency in drawing two Orders for some Supplys, Absolute Necessity to prevent fatal Consequences was the Cause, I presum^d for the Reasons Given that it woud have been Comply^d with, as it is not I submit and Rest Contented & Shall Not Give further Trouble in such Matters — ¶ Your Excellency by this may Know the setuation of this Post, and How farr I am able to pursue the Indian Bussiness must therefore Request two Months Rations for 25 Men. 2 Barrils Powder, 600 Whf. Ball & 500 Flints as the Least I can demand for Immediate Use, A Vessell which this Goes by, will sail from Newberry in a short time by Whome I wish to Receive these Artickles ¶ Having no Correspondent or Agent in Boston your Excellency will please Excuse the Liberty I take in Requesting that Whoever may have the direction of furnishing supplys may be Urged to Send it Expeditionously —

¶ By this Oppertunity Goes M^r Lacour the Gentleman I formerly Mentioned who Came from Nova Scotia during his Stay here he has been verry Active & Serviceable in the Bussiness of the Department No doubt Your Excellency will have him Examind which I presume may be Necessary —

¶ I have the Honour to Be with respect ¶ Your Excellency's Most Obd very hb^l Sv^t

J Allan

His Excellency John Hancock Esq^r

Order of Court Against Joseph M^cLellan.

Lincoln Ss the Common Wealth of Massachusetts

¶ To the Sheriff of our County of Cumberland his Under Sheriff or Deputy, Greeting. We Command you to Attach the Goods or Estate of Joseph M^cClallan of Falmouth in our County of Cumberland Gentleman to the Value of One Thou-

sand Pounds & for want thereof to take the Body of the Said Joseph M^cClallan if he may be found in your Precinct and him Safely keep so that you have him before Our justices of Our Inferiour Court of Common Please, next to be holden at Pownalborough within and for Our Said County of Lincoln on the Last Tuesday of September next than and their in Our Said Court to Answer unto Francis Rittal of Pownalborough aforesaid Taylor, in a plea of Trespass for that the said Joseph the twenty fifth Day of September in the Year of our Lord Christ one thousand seven hundred and Eighty at Pownalborough aforesaid, with force and Arms viz^t guns bayonets & Swords upon the said Francis made an Assault, and him the said Francis did than and there beat and Evely Treat and him the said Francis did Cary away at the Distance of Sixty miles and the said Francis in Prison without any reasonable Cause against the Will of him the said Francis Without any Legal Authority, & Contrary to the Law of the Land & of this Common Wealth for a Long time Viz^t for the Space of Nine weeks and Tow days Contained & Kept by means of which Confinement and Sufferings with Cold and hunger the Francis became Sick & in great Pain and distress so that his Life was dispaired of and the said Frances dureing the Time of his Imprisonment aforesaid was Oblidged to Expend for Necessarys to preserve his Life and to regain his Liberty the sum of Nine hundred Pounds and Other Enormities the said Joseph to the said Francis did than & their do an Commit against the Pease and, To the Damage of the said Francis Rittal as he Saith the Sum of One thousand Pounds which shall then & their to made to appear with Other due damages, And have you there this Writ with your Doings therein Witness W^m Lithgow Esq^r at Pownalborough this twenty sixth day of August in the year of Our Lord 1782

A true Coppy from
the Original

Jon^a Bowman Cler.
Tim Cutler Dep Sheriff

Memorial of Eastern Indians.

To his Excellency Governor Hancock.

¶ We the subscribers having heard that Juniper Barthiaume recolet wo has lived among us those two years past to our greatest satisfaction had been dismissed of his Employment, and that on the false reportt of Col Brow belonging to fort halifax in Quebec river, we here present and having full power of the other Indians come here on purpose to render justice to whom it belongs, and we can not hinder from saying that our priest has always behaved as a man of honor, and that on the contrary Co' Brow constantly imposes upon us; and if he has shewn any certificates, they can not be signed but by people who get often drunk, and consequently that he has surprised the religion of the members of the honorable Senate. We conclude please your Excellency, so as to avoid any disturbance, that said Col' Brow should be called again and that our recolet should continue his functions

¶ We will be under the greatest obligation to your Excellency if you would be so good as to procure some Cloaths and few other things we want, besides as lodging and boarding for six of us and our recolet during the time we shall remain in town, which may not be long, if the honourable cenate will pronounce quickly on this matter, It would be of a great advantage to us and to the States if it was so, the same sloop in which we came sailing in four day's hence. ¶ We have as much to complain of one Guillermain Interpreter to Col' Brow as well as of himself, so beg he should be dismissed

¶ We have one last favor to beg, which is to procure us eight fusils and some gun powder for the village. / ¶ As we have been obliged to take a french Interpreter to do all our businesses here, we hope that the state will allow him what is customary /

Boston 27 August 1782

Mark of J. horns Chief

[Five other marks of Indians]

{°°}

Endorsed: Resolve discharging Col^o Brewer Truckmaster at Fort Halifax & the Interpreter and reinstating Juniper Berthiaume in the office of Instructor & granting £1000 to supply the Eastern Department and requesting to Gov^t to issue orders to the Commissary General to supply the Indians with necessaries and for the election of a Naval officer at Machias

Oct 17, 1782

Letter of Fr. Juniper Berthiaume.

To his Excellency Governor Hancock

¶ Co^l Brow who inhabits fort halifax in Quenebec River having said that the states of Massachuset had dismissed me of my employment, I come here on purpose with six of the chiefs of the Indians of that river to justify of my conduct, and to prove that the certificates I have in my possession are of men of honor, and that on the contrary, those of Col^l Brow were signed but by people who most of the time are drunk, besides your Excellency has certainly received letters to convince you that what I advance is true. I can not represent too much to your Excellency what a revolution would hapen if Col^l Brow and his Interpreter were not dismissed and if I was not to continue my functions. It is not necessary I should say any more about this the chiefs of the nation will say enough—

F^r Juniper Berthiaume Recollet

In Senate Sept^r 30th 1782

¶ Read & thereupon Ordered that this Letter with the papers accompanying the same be committed to the Com-

mittee appointed by both Houses on the Letters from Col^o
Allan & Col^o Lithgow

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Sept^r 30th 1782

Read & concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Report of Peter Noyes.

Cumberland Ss

Falmouth Aug^t 29th 1782

Whereas a Dispute arising between the Town of Topsfield in the County of Essex & the Town of Gorham in the County of Cumberland both s^d Towns claiming Timothy Bacon as a Soldier inlisted by s^d Topsfield upon the Resolve of the 2^d of Dec^r 1780 & Application being made to me by s^d Town of Gorham to determine to which Town s^d Man belong^d agreeable to s^d Resolve—Whereupon I notified the Parties to appear at my House in Falm^o this Day who appear'd & after a full Hearing of the Parties it was fully prov^d that s^d Tim^o Bacon was at the Time of his Inlistment & long before an Inhabitant of the s^d Town of Gorham & that he was inlisted muster'd & Rec'd for the s^d Town of Topsfield—Whereupon I do hereby determine agreeable to s^d Resolve that s^d Tim^o Bacon properly belongs to said Gorham

Peter Noyes } Muster Master for the County of
Cumberland for the Men that were rais'd upon the Resolve
for the 2^d of Dec^r 1780

This to Certify that timothy Bacon and Benjamin Libbey was Received as Continental Soldiers for the town of topsfield for three years to Compleat there Quota of men July 19: 1781

Israel Hutchinson Superintendant for
the County of Essex

Danvers August 13: 1782

Petition Inhab^{ts} Massabeeseck.

To the Honourable Senate & House of Representatives in
General Court Assembled

We the Petitioners Inhabitants of a Place known by the Name of Massabeeseck in the County of York and State of Massachusetts Bay — Humbly Sheweth ¶ that we are Settled here and not incorporated and there Lays a Number of tax Bills against us likewise an Execution from the Treasurer for Soldiers which is not in our power to Pay at present by Reasons that we are Greatly Deminished in our Number taken into Coxhall Incorporation; Littell falls; and Huberts town; which takes away a Very Considerable part of the Estates formerly called Massabeeseck Likewise that there has been hired out of this place a Number of Soldgers into other towns against the Laws of this State & not in our power to hinder for which Reasons we Pray your Honours to Consider our Sircumstances and Put us into Som Method Either by Incorporation or any way that your Honours think fitt and we will Send a Valuation Bill of our Estates Submiting our Selves to the mercy of the Court and begg your Patience and we Shall willingly put to our Sholders to the utmost of our ability Relying on your mercy & Wisdom and we as in Duty bound Shall Ever pray for your honours and the Wellfair of the United States ¶ N B. we Like wise Inform your Honours that it is Generaly thought that all the Inhabitants Possesses would not pay the taxes that lays against us.

Joseph Swett,	Joshua Webster,	Samuel Scribner,
Clement Moody,	Nath ^l Hawes,	Isaac Johnson,
David Kimball,	Joseph Carter,	Coffin Fling
Israel Smith,	Jeremiah Smith,	John Smith,
James Harvey,	David Carter,	Jonathan Smith
And ^m Burley,	Daniel Scribner,	
John Smith,	Simeon Tebbets,	

¶ At the Request of several of the Inhabitants of Massebeseck being well Acquainted With that Settlement knowing that there is not more than one Quarter of the Inhabitants Posses a Sufficianse of Provitions to Last them and there Families the Year about and one half of them Seavs anything or Very in Considerable Towards There Surport by Reason of Extreem Poverty Haveing Large Families and no oxen to help them Towards Cultivating and bringing tue Those Lands which are Very Hard to Subdue and but few oxen in the Settlement: which obliges them to seek there Supplys of Provitions at a great Distance and at a Great Disadvantage and to Pay for them in Small manufacturies which still has an attendancy to keep them under such circumstances as above mentioned

David Gile,	}	Inhabitants of Sanford
Morgan Lewis,		
Nathe ^l Conant		

Memorial Inhab^{ts} First Parish, Scarborough.

To the Hon^{ble} General Court of the comon Wealth of Massachusetts

¶ The Memorial of the Inhabitants of the first Parish in Scarborough in the County of Cumberland Thomas Lancaster Minister of said Parish & Nehemiah Libby of s^d Scarborough Yeoman humbly shews that a Tract of Parsonage Land in s^d Scarborough belonging to s^d Parish containing Eighteen Acres & one Hundred & forty one square Rods and lying on the Southeast Side of the high Way over Beach Ridge so called in s^d Scarborough and Bounded as follows viz^t Beginning at a White Maple marked four sides and the Letter P and runs Southwest Seventy three Rods to the s^d High way then North four Degrees west 104 rods by the High Way

then N. E. five Rods then S. E. Eighty Rods to the maple Tree first mentioned Lies at such a Distance from where the Minister of s^d first Parish now liveth and in all Probability from where any future Minister of s^d Parish must hereafter live that it is not nor ever will be of much use or Service to the Minister of s^d Parish yet it is in such a Situation & the Bounds thereof so interferes with Lands belonging to s^d Nehemiah Libby as to be exceedingly profitable to him, and the s^d Inhabitants of s^d first Parish and their present Minister the s^d Thomas Lancaster of the one part and the s^d Nehemiah Libby on the other are very desirous of making an exchange of s^d Parsonage Land for sundry pieces of Salt Marsh & thatch Bed in s^d Scarborough containing in the whole about fourteen Acres and the property of the s^d Nehemiah Libby and which is handy & convenient to the present Minister of said Parish & must probably be so to any future one, Which Exchange if it could be effected would be of very great Service to s^d Parish to their s^d Minister & the s^d Nehemiah Libby and not the least Damage to any Person in the World as no other Person have any Interest or concern therein — Wherefore they humbly Pray that the Inhabitants of said parish by their Committee and the s^d Thomas Lancaster may be impowred to make said Exchange with the s^d Nehemiah Libby & they and he authorised to make and execute a good & sufficient Deed in Law of s^d Parsonage Land to the s^d Nehemiah Libby his Heirs & Assigns for ever on his the s^d Nehemiah Libbee's making a like Deed to them of s^d Salt Marsh and Thatch Bed for the use of the Ministry in s^d Parish in Scarborough for ever, and as in duty Bound will ever pray

Wm Tompson	{	Com ^{tee} of the
W Vaughan		first Parish in s ^d
		Town of Scarborough

Thos Lancaster	}	Minister of s ^d Parish
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Scarborough Sep^r 6th 1782 —

Certificate and Order in Favor Thomas Thomas.

This Certifies ¶ That the sum of Eighteen hundred & six pounds, seventeen shillings & six pence, for seven thirty second parts of the Arm'd Ship Vengeance, appurtenances & six pair of six pound Cannon lost on the Penobscot Expedition 1779 and Interest thereon, also thirty six pounds for Wages as Commander of said Ship, the whole amounting to the sum of One thousand, eight hundred & forty two pounds, seventeen shillings & six pence in specie, became due to Cap^t Thomas Thomas, the 5th Instant, which when paid will be in full for the same — 1842. 17. 6

Thomas Ivers	}	Com ^{tee} for Audit ^s the Acc ^{ts}
Peter Roe Dalton		of the late Board of War—

His Excell^y the Governor & the Hon^{ble} the Council of the
Commonwth of Massachusetts Boston 11th Sep^r 1782

In Council Sept^r 14th 1782

R^d & Advised that a Warrant be drawn on the Treas^r in full of the above Certificate agreeable to Resolve of 28th Jan^y 1782

John Avery Sec^y

Petition Selectmen Town Coxhall.

To the Hon^{ble} Senate & House of Representatives of the
Commonwealth of Massachusetts in general Court as-
sembled

September 18th 1782

The Petition of the Select Men of the Town of Coxhall in the County of York Humbly shew, that they never received the Resolve of Court passed the 2nd day of December 1780 for procuring Soldiers for the Continental Army that on or

about the 10th day of May 1781 Three Men belonging to said Town were Inlisted into the Continental Army to serve Three years by the Inhabitants of other Towns & being a New Town not having been Incorporated more than one year they thought it would be sufficient without any further or other procedure to return the Names &c of said Men to the Superintendant of the County which was accordingly done However some Time ago the Treasurer of the Commonwealth Issued his Execution against the Select Men of said Town for the year 1781 for the Amount of the Fines of the said Three Men to pay which woud totally ruin them It was impossible for the Town to raise the Money to pay the Fines there not being a Tenth of a Sum Sufficient for that purpose in Town & at the same Time other Taxes were to be paid Therefore being in perplexity your Petitioner applied to some Gentlemen in a Neighbouring Town for Advice who recommended to us to procure the Three Soldiers & Send them forward to the Army which was done accordingly as will appear by a Certificate from Cap^t Sam^l Carr a continental Muster Master herewith to be presented The Expence of procuring said Three Men amounted to Two Hundred & Seventy Nine Pounds, the greater part of which is Still owed Wherefore as the said Town is poor & small as well as New your Petitioners humbly beg that their case & circumstances may be taken into the Consideration of the Legislature that the whole of the said Fines may be remitted & that the Sheriff of the said County may be directed to return the said Execution fully Satisfied & your Petitioners, as in duty bound will ever pray &c

Joshua Ricker } Selectmen
Ezra Kimball } of Coxhall

In Senate Sep^t 20th 1782

Read & thereupon Orderd, that Nathaniel Wells Esq^r wth such as the Hon^{ble} House shall join be a Committee to take the

Petition into consideration & report what is proper to be done thereon —

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Sept^r 20th 1782.

Read & concurred & Col^o Grow & M^r Barrett of Concord are joined.

Nath Gorham Speaker

Petition Martha Oxnard.

To the Honorable Sennet and the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives of the State of Massachusetts Bay in General Court Assembled

The Petition of Martha Oxnard of Falmouth in the County of Cumberland & Commonwealth of Massachusetts, humbly sheweth, that your Petitioner's Husband is one of the Absentees, and now resident at Penobscot — that he has never taken up Arms against his Country nor has he in The least degree been concerned in any Armed Vessell to Cruize against the United States of America that your Petitioner is now in Falmouth with three small Children neither of which is seven years Old, it is not from any attachment to the British Government that I ever had any inclination to leave my Native Country, but the tender connections that should always Subsist between Man and Wife. and the many inconveniences that attend liveing seperate is my only motive. and hope will plead an excuse for my troubling your Honor at this time — as there is no prospect of your Petitioners Husband having liberty to return to this Commonwealth She therefore most Humbly prays that she may have Liberty granted Her to proceed to Penobscot with Her three Children two Servant Maids and only a part of her Household Furniture ¶ and that she may have leave to Hire a small Schooner about

twenty tons Named the Hazzard John Thurlo Master and that a Flag may be granted Accordingly and your Petitioner as in Duty bound Shall ever pray —

Martha Oxnard

Resolve on Foregoing.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate Sep^r 23^d 1782.

On the petition of Martha Oxnard praying for leave to go to her Husband at Penobscot ¶ Resolved that the prayer of the Petition be granted and that the said Martha Oxnard be & she is hereby permitted to go to Penobscot, by the way of a Flag as prayed for in the petition and that she have leave to take with her two servant Maids, and such part of her Household Goods as the Selectmen of Falmouth shall admit of — not to remove from the said Penobscot to any other part of this Commonwealth without leave from the General Court —

Sent down for Concurrence S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Sep^t 23^d 1782.

Read & concurred Nathaniel Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve on Petition Selectmen of Coxhall.

The Committee of both Houses appointed to consider of the Petition of the Select Men of the Town of Coxhall & Report have attended that Service and ask leave to Report the following Resolve

Nath^l Wells p^r Order

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate Septem^r 23rd 1782

Whereas it appears that the Resolve of the general Court passed the 2nd day of December, 1780 for raising Soldiers for

the Continental Service was not Received in the Town of Coxhall previous to the Issuing an Execution against the Select Men of said Town on Account of a Neglect of Duty required by said Resolve; since which they have at great expence procured Three good & effective Men to serve Three years & delivered the same to one of the Continental Muster Masters being the Quota required of said Town by said Resolve & have by their Petition for reasons therein set forth prayed for an Exemption from any Fine or Penalty for not furnishing said Soldiers sooner. Therefore ¶ Resolved that the prayer of said Petition be granted & that the said Town & the Selectmen thereof be & hereby are excused & exempted from any Fine or Penalty which they may have incurred for not procuring their said Soldiers sooner & that the Sheriff of the County of York be & hereby is directed to Return the said Execution Issued in Consequence of a Deficiency of said Soldiers in said Towns to the Treasurer of the Commonwealth as satisfied in full any Law or Resolve to the contrary notwithstanding—

Read & accepted.

Sent down for Concurrence S Adams Presid^r

In the House of Representatives Sept^r 23^d 1782

Read & concurred Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve in re Confiscation of Estates.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives September 24th 1782

Whereas. In pursuance of the Law of this Commonwealth intituled “an Act for Confiscating the Estates of certain persons commonly called Absentees” Complaints were Exhibited to the Justices of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas for the County of Lincoln on the last Tuesday of September

Anno Domini 1781 — against Sylvester Gardiner, Charles Callahan, John Lee William Vassal David Phips & Charles Ward Apthorp alledging that the Land lately owned by them respectively, lying within the same County were forfeited & escheated, which complaints were duly Continued to the then next Inferiour Court of Common Pleas to be holden for said County on the first Tuesday of June A. D. 1782 and notifications of the same were duly published according to Law at which last named Town the same Complaints ought to have been continued to the last Tuesday of September then next, but by mistake Judgment was then rendered against them by Default, whereby some Persons may be deprived of an opportunity of claiming the same, therefore ^A Resolved that the Justices of the Inferiour Court of Common Pleas for the County of Lincoln be and they hereby are impowered and directed to erase the Record of the Default of the said Complaints and to enter the same Continued ^B and that to the next term, being the last Tuesday of September A. D. 1782 the Same Complaints be brought forward as Continued and that any Claim to the same be received as tho' the same Complaints had not been defaulted, & that then the same Proceedings shall be had on the same Complaints as tho the same had been regularly continued to the said last Tuesday of September & from thence to the said first Tuesday of June next & that Notice of this Continuance be published in the public Newspapers & for the same Length of Time as by Law the first Notice of the Libels against such Estates is by Law to be published

Sent up for concurrence

Nathaniel Gorham Speaker.

In Senate October 2^d 1782

Read & Concurred as taken into a New Draft

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Nov^r 11th 1782

Read and Concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock.

Memorial Thomas Porter.

To the Hon^{ble} Senate & Hon^{ble} House of Representatives in
General Court Assembled

Sep^t 27th 1782.

¶ The Memorial of Thomas Porter of Topsfield in the County of Essex & Stephen Longfellow Jun^r of Gorham in the County of Cumberland Humbly shews That the s^d Thomas Porter being Head of a Class in s^d Town of Topsfield, procured Timothy Bacon as a Soldier for the Continental Army agreeable to a Resolve of the general Court the 2^d of Dec^r 1780 which Soldier has since been determined agreeable to s^d Resolve properly to belong to s^d Town of Gorham, wherefore your Memorialists humbly pray that s^d Town of Gorham may be discharged from the deficiency of one Man they stand charg'd with & the s^d Tho^s Porter be allow'd some proper Time to procure another Man Y^r Memorialists as in Duty bound will ever pray

Thomas Porter

Stephen Longfellow Jun^r in behalf of the
Town of Gorham

Resolve on Same.

Com^{on} Wealth Massachusetts —

House of Representatives Sept^r 30th 1782

On the Petition of Thomas Porter & Stephen Longfellow —

¶ Resolv'd that the Treasurer of this com^{on} Wealth be & hereby is directed to discharge the Town of Gorham from

the deficiency of one Man they stand Charg'd with upon the resolve of the 2^d of Dec^r 1780 & that Thomas Porter of Topsfield be allow'd forty Days to procure a Man in lieu thereof —

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate Oct^r 24th 1782

¶ Read & Concurred as taken into a New Draft.

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Nov^r 1st 1782

Read and concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd

John Hancock

Resolve Additional to Foregoing.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Sept^r 30, 1782

On the Petition of Thomas Porter & Stephen Longfellow
 ¶ Resolved that the Treasurer of this Commonwealth be & hereby is directed to discharge the town of Gorham from the deficiency of one man they stand charged with upon the Resolve of the 2^d of Dec^r 1780 And in order to Prevent a deficiency in the Quota of men Sett on the town of Topsfield by the aforesaid Resolve—¶ It is further Resolved, that Thomas Porter of Topsfield one of said Petitioners, be and hereby is directed and Required to procure one able bodied man to serve in the Continental Army for three years or dureing the War (in Lue of the man taken from the Town of Topsfield and carried to the credit of the town of Gorham by the determination of the Muster-master) And to the Acceptance of the Continental Muster-master at Boston and Take his receipt for said Soldiers; Which Receipt shall be

Lodged in the Treasurers office on or before the tenth day of Dec^r next. And in case of neglect or refusal he the said Porter shall Forfitt and pay a fine of Eighty five pounds thirteen shillings; equal to the average price of the men raised agreeable to a Resolve of the Gen^l Court Passed the Second of Dec^r 1780 — And in case of neglect or refusal as aforesaid, the Treasurer of this Commonwealth is hereby directed to issue his execution against the said Thomas Porter for the said fine Without delay —

Petition James Avery.

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate & Honble House of Representatives
of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

¶ The Petition of James Avery of Boston Humbly Sheweth,
¶ That your Petitioner is most earnestly requested by Lieut^t William Albee, Commanding the Artillery Company at Machias, to inform the Hon^{ble} Court that the indigent State of the Stores there has prevented his receiving from the Company his Rations, which appears by the Certificates herewith presented.— Therefore requests the Hon^{ble} Court would permit him to receive them from the Company's Store at this place as he has a large family who are in the utmost distress for want of the necessaries of Life, and there remains no possibility of procuring such necessaries in that part of the Country where he is stationed. ¶ Your Petitioner wou^d be insensible to the calls of humanity if he did not comply with the request of the Men lately under his Command, in laying before the Hon^{ble} Court their truly piteous Situation for want of Cloathing — they have not received any for above Eighteen Months and are now entirely destitute; the Winter Season now approaching and they Stationed in part of the Country very Severe, must prevent their doing any

kind of duty and Suffer for the want of which as will appear by their Representation herewith presented. ¶ Your Petitioner as in Duty Bound will ever pray

Jas Avery

In Senate Sep^t 30th 1782.

¶ Read & thereupon Orderd that this Petition be committed to the Committee of both Houses appointed on the petition of John Preble; to consider the same with the papers accompanying & report what is proper to be done thereon

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Oct^o 7th 1782

Read & concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker.

Resolve in re Naval Officer at Machias.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Sept^r 30th 1782

Ordered that M^r Lewis, M^r Frazier and Cap^t Dench with such as the Hon Senate may join be a Committee to consider of the propriety of appointing a Naval Officer at the Port of Machias

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate October 1st 1782

Read & Nonconcurred & thereupon Ordered that the Subject Matter of the above order be referrd to the Committee of both Houses appointed on the Letters from Col^o Allan & Col^o Lithgow

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Oct^o 2^d 1782

Read & concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Memorial Isaac Snow.

To the Honorable Senate, & the Honorable House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Mass Bay

¶ The Memorial of Isaac Snow in behalf of the Town of Harpswell in the County of Cumberland, humbly shews, That in the last Valuation, the said Town was assessed in an undue Proportion with the other Towns in s^d County,—he therefore prays a Committee may be appointed to inquire into the Premises, and relieve the said Town in such way and manner as may appear to be just and equitable, and your Memorialist as in duty bound will ever pray.

Boston 24 June 1782

Isaac Snow

Resolve Relating to Harpswell.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Oct^r 2^d 1782

On the Memorial of Isaac Snow, Resolved that the Town of Harpswell; be abated Five Shillings in the Thousand Pounds of the last Valuation, and that the same be laid on a Plantation called West Boidenham, in the County of Lincoln.

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate October 9th 1782

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd

John Hancock

This Certifies that We the subscribers Representatives of a number of Towns in the County of Lincoln think it reasonable that five Shillings in the Thousand Pound be abated to the Town of Harpswell in the County of Cumberland in the last Valuation & that the same be laid on a plantation in the s^d County of Lincoln called West Bowdoinham because a great number of the Inhabitants of s^d Bowdoinham belong'd

to s^d Harpswell when the Valuation was settled & were not given in for any Town in the County of Lincoln —

Sam^l M^cCobb Mason Wheaton

Jacob Ludwig Alex^r Nickels

Boston Oct^r 9th 1782.

Certificate of Auditing Committee.

This Certifies, ¶ That the sum of Four hundred & eighty six pounds twelve shillings & six pence, for one sixteenth part of the armed Ship Hunter, appur &^{as} lost at Penobscott 1779, & ninety four pounds seventeen shillings & eight pence, for Interest thereon amounting to Five hundred & eighty one pounds ten shillings & two pence in specie, is due to Barth^o Putnam — also that the sum of Four hundred & eighty six pounds twelve shillings six pence, for another sixteenth part of the loss of s^d Ship Hunter app^r &^c and ninety four pounds, seventeen shillings & eight pence for Int^r thereon, amo^{ts} to Five hundred & Eighty one pounds, ten shillings & two pence in Specie, is due to Jacob Ashton — also that the sum of three hundred & eighty one pounds, two shill^{ss} & five pence, in part of loss of s^d ship Hunter, & seventy four pounds six shillings, four pence for Interest thereon, amo^{ts} to the sum of Four hundred & fifty five pounds, eight shillings & nine pence in specie, is due to Simon Forrester — amounting in the whole to the Sum of One Thousand, six hundred & eighteen pounds, nine Shillings & one penny in Specie, which when paid to Cap^t Benjamin Goodhue Jun^r will be in full for the same — £1618.9.1

Peter Roe Dalton }
Thomas Ivers }

Com^{tes} for
Audit^s the
Acc^{ts} of the late
Board of War

His Excell^y the Governor & the Hon^{ble} the Council of Com-
monwth of Massach^{ts} Boston Octo 3^d 1782.

In Council Oct^r 4 1782

R^d & Advised That Warrants be drawn on the Treas^r in favor of each of the persons mentioned in this Certificate agreeable to Resolve of 28th Jan^r 1782

John Avery Sec^r

Petition John Preble and Accompanying Papers.

To the Honble Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Petition of John Preble Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioner has been in the Service of his Country ever since the Commencement of the Present War & for these five years past a Captin in the Continental Service in Colo Allan's Department — being Stationed in that Destitute part of the Country, were nearly half the Time without any Supplys whatever from the Public, by which means your Petitioner has a Considerable Quantity of Back Rations due to him, as will appear by the Commissarys Certificates herewith presented — and such Articles not being had there your Petitioner Humbly Prays your Honors will be pleased to permit him to Receive from the Commissarys Store here such Rations as is his Due —

Your Petitioner woud by leave further to inform the Hon^{ble} Court that on the 22^d of May 1781, he rec^d an order from his Comd^s Officer go as a Pilot on board the State Ship Marrs Cruizing on the Eastern Coast, and some time after had permission from his Exc^r the Governor to go as Pilot in the State Sloop Commanded by Cap^t Nevens Cruizing on said Coast for which he rec^d £5 p^r Mo^s during the time he was on board, which he Considered as a Gratuety for his Extra Services, but your Petitioner finds that on making up of the Pay Roll for the Past year his Continental pay was Retain'd

during the whole time he was aboard said Vessells, altho' what he rec'd was not more than one third of his Pay allowed by Congress and he was aboard Doing Duty by Order of his Comd^s Officer — Therefore your Petitioner Humbly Prays your Honors wou^d be pleased to Direct the Committee on Rolls to make him up for the Time that his Pay was Retain'd, and as in Duty Bound will ever pray —

John Preble.

In Senate Sep^r 27th 1782

Read & thereupon Orderd that John Bliss Esq^r with such as the Hon^{ble} House shall join be a Committee to take this Petition into consideration, together with the papers accompanying the same, & make report thereon

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Sept^r 28, 1782

Read and concurred & Col^o Grow & M^r Longfellow are joined

Nath Gorham Speaker

These Certifey that Capt John Preble of the Indian Depart hath Received from this store but fourteen Rations of Meat & thirty eight Rations of Bread from the Last day of March unto this date

p^r Stephen Smith Com^r

Com^r Store Machias August 16, 1782

These Certifey that Capt John Preble of the Indian Department hath received from this Store since the Last day of January last past unto this date But thirty five Rations of Bread & meat in all he has Received unto this Date and Never Received More than a Singel Ration when he did Receive his Provisions

p^r Stephen Smith Comisary

Com^y Store Machias, March 31, 1781

These Certify that Cap^t John Preble of the Indian Department hath Received But only a Singel Ration of Provision from this Store at any time Since the twentyeth day of January last past and that there Remains Due to him thirty Rations of Bread to Make up his Singel Ration to this Date

p^r Stephen Smith Comisary

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

¶ The Committee appointed to consider the Petition of John Preble & papers accompanying the same beg leave to report the following Resolve—¶ John Bliss p^r Order Resolved that the Comissary general, of this comon Wealth be directed to pay John Preble Captain of a Company of Indians in the Eastern department under Col^o John Allen £49 in Money or Provisions being for 1470 back Rations due to him from the 20th of Jan^y 1781 to the 16th of August 1782 at Eight pence p^r Ration, & Charge the same to the United States—

In Senate Oct^r 3, 1782.

Read & Accepted

Sent down for Concurrence S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Oct^o 4th 1782

Read and concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd

John Hancock

Com^y Store Machias Septem^r 30, 1781

Action on Petition First Parish, Scarborough.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In House of Representatives Oct^r 4th 1782

On the Petition of the first Parish in Scarborough in the County of Cumberland, Thomas Lancaster Minister of s^d

Parish & Nehemiah Libby of s^d Scarborough, Yeoman, praying that the Committee of s^d Parish & the said Thomas Lancaster may be impowered to make & execute a good & sufficient Deed in Law of a certain Tract of parsonage Land in s^d Scarborough upon his the s^d Nehemiah Libby's making a like Deed of s^d Parish of Sundry pieces of Salt Marsh & Thatch Bed for the use of the Ministry in s^d Parish in exchange therefor—

Resolv^d That William Tompson Esq^r and M^r William Vaughn Committee of the first Parish in s^d Scarborough & Thomas Lancaster Minis= of s^d Parish be and hereby are impowred to make & execute a good & sufficient Deed in Law to the s^d Nehemiah Libby his Heirs and assigns forever of a certain Tract of parsonage Land in s^d Scarborough containing Eighteen Acres & One Hundred & forty one square Rods lying on the Southeast Side of the high Way over Beach Ridge so call^d in s^d Scarborough, the Bounds whereof mentioned in s^d Petition are as follows viz^t— Beginning at a white maple mark'd four Sides and the letter P & runs Southwest Seventy three Rods to the s^d high way then North four Degrees West One Hundred & four Rods by the high way then Northeast five Rods then Southeast Eighty rods to the Maple Tree first mentioned—upon his the s^d Nehemiah Libby's making a like Deed to them of s^d Salt Marsh & Thatch Bed for the use of the Ministry in s^d Parish in Scarborough for ever

Sent up for concurrence

Nathaniel Gorham Speaker

In Senate October 19th 1782

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd

John Hancock

Certificates Accompanying Resolve.

This may Certify that I fully concur that the desired Exchange of Parsonage Lands for Salt Marsh should be made between y^e said M^r Lancaster & Nehem^h Libbee both of Scarborough from me—

Benjⁿ Chadwick

Scarboro August 16, 1782.

This may Testify that W^m Tompson Esq^r & M^r W^m Vaughn are a Committee Chosen by the First Parish in Scarborough at a leagal parish Meeting To join with M^r Th^o Lancaster to petition the General Court For the Exchange of a peice of the parsonage for Marsh Tract.

Ebenz^r Libby p^r Clerk

Five Acres & Seventeen Square rods of Salt marsh Scituate in Scarborough Near none Such River So call^d Bounded as follows. beginning by the up land at y^e head of a Ditch, thence running by sd Ditch South 25 Degrees east, 16 Rods thence South one degree west 4 Rods & one Quarter thence west 43 Rods to the up land thence by s^d up land North nine Degrees east 16 Rods. thence north 72 Degrees East 18 Rods thence South 80 Degrees east 21 Rods to y^e first mentioned bounds

A certain Tract of Salt marsh Situate in Scarborough containing two Acres be y^e Same more or less bounded As follows Adjoining on y^e western corner by Marsh of Forqus Flagins decaasd now in Possession of Joseph Boothby Thence running Southwest to a Six acre or Meserves Island & so to continue round by S^d Island from thence to a ditch cutt in the marsh or however otherwise the same may be bounded or described.

The Thatch bed Lying on the great Thatch bed (so Cal^d Begins at a stake Standing at the Southwest Cornor of Ebenz^r Libby^s thatch bead adjoining Cap^t Tylers Thatch bead and

sand Pounds & for want thereof to take the Body of the Said Joseph M^cClallan if he may be found in your Precinct and him Safely keep so that you have him before Our justices of Our Inferiour Court of Common Please, next to be holden at Pownalborough within and for Our Said County of Lincoln on the Last Tuesday of September next than and their in Our Said Court to Answer unto Francis Rittal of Pownalborough aforesaid Taylor, in a plea of Trespass for that the said Joseph the twenty fifth Day of September in the Year of our Lord Christ one thousand seven hundred and Eighty at Pownalborough aforesaid, with force and Arms viz^t guns bayonets & Swords upon the said Francis made an Assault, and him the said Francis did than and there beat and Evely Treat and him the said Francis did Cary away at the Distance of Sixty miles and the said Francis in Prison without any reasonable Cause against the Will of him the said Francis Without any Legal Authority, & Contrary to the Law of the Land & of this Common Wealth for a Long time Viz^t for the Space of Nine weeks and Tow days Contained & Kept by means of which Confinement and Sufferings with Cold and hunger the Francis became Sick & in great Pain and distress so that his Life was dispaired of and the said Frances dureing the Time of his Imprisonment aforesaid was Oblidged to Expend for Necessarys to preserve his Life and to regain his Liberty the sum of Nine hundred Pounds and Other Enormities the said Joseph to the said Francis did than & their do an Commit against the Pease and, To the Damage of the said Francis Rittal as he Saith the Sum of One thousand Pounds which shall then & their to made to appear with Other due damages, And have you there this Writ with your Doings therein Witness W^m Lithgow Esq^r at Pownalborough this twenty sixth day of August in the year of Our Lord 1782

A true Coppy from
the Original

Jon^a Bowman Cler.
Tim Cutler Dep Sheriff

Memorial of Eastern Indians.

To his Excellency Governor Hancock.

¶ We the subscribers having heard that Juniper Barthiaume recolet wo has lived among us those two years past to our greatest satisfaction had been dismissed of his Employment, and that on the false reportt of Col Brow belonging to fort halifax in Quebec river, we here present and having full power of the other Indians come here on purpose to render justice to whom it belongs, and we can not hinder from saying that our priest has always behaved as a man of honor, and that on the contrary Co^l Brow constantly imposes upon us; and if he has shewn any certificates, they can not be signed but by people who get often drunk, and consequently that he has surprised the religion of the members of the honorable Senate. We conclude please your Excellency, so as to avoid any disturbance, that said Col^l Brow should be called again and that our recolet should continue his functions

¶ We will be under the greatest obligation to your Excellency if you would be so good as to procure some Cloaths and few other things we want, besides as lodging and boarding for six of us and our recolet during the time we shall remain in town, which may not be long, if the honourable cenate will pronounce quickly on this matter, It would be of a great advantage to us and to the States if it was so, the same sloop in which we came sailing in four day's hence.

¶ We have as much to complain of one Guillermain Interpreter to Col^l Brow as well as of himself, so beg he should be dismissed

¶ We have one last favor to beg, which is to procure us eight fusils and some gun powder for the village. / ¶ As we have been obliged to take a french Interpreter to do all our businesses here, we hope that the state will allow him what is customary /

Boston 27 August 1782

Mark of J. horns Chief

[Five other marks of Indians]

{°°}

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Boston 27 August 1782

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Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate Nov^r 2^d 1782

Read & Concurred with Amendment at A dele from A to B & insert the twentieth Day of November next

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Nov^r 2^d 1782

Read and concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd

John Hancock

Resolve on Petition Jonathan Bowman.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Oct^r 14th 1782

On the Petition of Jonathan Bowman Esq^r Clerk of the Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the County of Lincoln on Behalf of the said Court Resolved,

That the Prayer of the said Petition be granted & that the Justices of the said Court be & they hereby are empowered to assess upon the Polls & Estates of the Inhabitants of the said County the Sum of five hundred Pounds for defraying the Charges therein mentioned

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate October 14th 1782

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd

John Hancock

Certificate in Favor Schr. Unity.

This Certifies

That the Sum of Eighteen pounds sixteen shillings & six pence, for one sixteenth part of the loss & hire of the Schooner Unity & appurtenances on the Penobscot Expedition July 1779, and three pounds four shillings for Interest thereon to the 1st Instant, amounting to Twenty two pounds & six pence, in specie, is due to M^r John Symmes, which when paid will be in full for the same £22 . 0 . 6

Thomas Ivers, Peter Roe Dalton } Com^{tee} for Audit^s Acc^{ts}
of the late Board of War.

His Excellency the Governor & the Hon^{ble} the Council of the Boston 16th October 1782.

Commonwth of Massachusetts—

In Council Oct^r 23^d 1782

R^d & Advised that a W^t be drawn on the Treas^r in full of this Certificate agreeable to Resolve of 28th January 1782

John Avery Sec^y

Report and Resolve on Petition Col. Allen et als.

The Committee of both Houses appointed on the letters from Col^o Allen & Col^o Lithgow, & the petitions of Juniper Berthiaume & the Indian Chiefs, & also to consider the propriety of appointing a Naval officer at the Port of Machias report by way of resolve

John Pitts p^r order

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

Resolved that the Governor with advice of Council be and hereby is requested to issue orders on the Commissary General to supply the Eastern Department under the Command of Col^o John Allen, according to the recommendations of

Congress, with such provisions & Military stores, not exceeding the Sum of one thousand pounds, as he shall from time to time think necessary, the United States to be charged therefor, & the Commissary General is directed to furnish them accordingly.

And Whereas it is not necessary to continue the Indian trade at Fort Hallifax, Resolved that Col^o Josiah Brewer the Truck master, & also the Interpreter be & they are hereby discharged from that service.

And as it appears by the application of a Number of y^e Indian Chiefs & Juniper Berthiaume that they are desirous he may be reinstated in the office of Instructor to the Indians, which may have a tendency to promote & retain their Friendship to the Inhabitants of this Common Wealth, resolved that the said Juniper Berthiaume be and hereby is reinstated in the office of Instructor to the said Indians any resolve or order of the General Court for his discharge from that service notwithstanding. It is also resolved that the Governor with advice of Council be and hereby is requested to issue orders on the Commissary General to supply said Indians with such cloaths and other things requested in their petition as he shall think necessary, and the Commissary General is hereby directed to furnish them accordingly.

It is further resolved that a Naval officer for the Port of Machias be elected as soon as may be.

In Senate October 17th 1782

Read & Accepted

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Nov^r 6th 1782

Read and concurred

Nathaniel Gorham Speaker

Approv'd

John Hancock

Resolve on Petition James Avery.

In the House of Representatives Octo^r 21st 1782

On the Petition of James Avery Esq Agent for the Town of Machias Praying that the Acct^s between said Town and this Commonwealth might be Adjusted and settled, and that said Town might be Allowed in the Settlement of said Accompts, hire for the Schooner Dilligent for the time she was employed by the Public, also that as the Money — granted by this Court on February 7th 1776 for the Relief of the Eastern Settlements, several Towns received together and gave joint Bonds to the Treasurer for the same, that said Town of Machias after settling for the proportion they received might be discharged from the Bonds given therefor.

Resolved that the Committee for Methodizing and Settling the public Accompts be and they are hereby empowered and directed to Adjust and Settle the Accompts between this Commonwealth and the Town of Machias, & allow therein to the said Town the hire of the Schooner Dilligent during the time she was employ'd by the public, and to charge y^e said Town with only the Real Sum they received of the Money granted by this Court on the 7th Feb^r 1777, for the Relief of the Eastern Settlements.

Sent up for concurrence Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate Nov^r 4th 1782 Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve in Favor William Albee.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts,

The Committee of both Houses appointed to consider the petition of James Avery & papers accompanying them, beg leave to Report by way of Resolve:

John Bliss p^r order

In Senate October 22^d 1782

Read & thereupon

Resolved, that the Commissary General of this Commonwealth be & hereby is directed to pay to James Avery thirty four pounds three shillings & four pence in money or provisions for the use of William Albee Lieu^t of the Artillery Company at Machias being for ten hundred & twenty five back rations due to said William Albee from the 7th of Dec^r 1779 to the 16th of August 1782, at eight pence p^r Ration; & that the Agent of this Commonwealth be directed to deliver to the said James Avery Seven Suits of Cloaths for the Soldiers at said Machias & Charge the same to the United States —

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Nov^r 4th 1782.

Read and concurred

Nathaniel Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Memorial Nathaniel Wells et als.

To the Hon^{ble} Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled the 25th day of Oct^r 1782

The Memorial of Nathaniel Wells, Edward Grow & Simon Fry Esq^r in Behalf of the several Towns in the County of York humbly shews that the said Towns Exerted themselves to the utmost of their Abilities for complying with the Resolve of Court passed the 30th day of June 1781 requiring them to furnish a Number of Soldiers to serve Three Months in the continental Army & actually Inlisted a Number of

Men for that purpose but such were their unhappy Circumstances at that Time by Reason of the intire failure of the old continental Currency & the State of the New Emission Money that they were absolutely unable to furnish the Soldiers by them engaged with sufficient Sums of hard Money to defrey their Expences from thence to the continental Army tho the greatest Exertions were made for the purpose The Reason of their Failure was the Want of hard Money, there not being at that Time within the County a sufficient Sum of that Money to defrey the said Expences and such was the Embarisment of Trade their Coasts being at that Time unusually infested with British Privateers as rendred them utterly unable to procure hard Money from the places where it circulated which continued nearly Six Months without much Alteration in Consequence of which said Towns also fell & still remain greatly in the Arrear in payment of their Taxes Your Mem^o beg leave to mention their service to the Commonwealth of the present War at all other Times said County has been among the foremost in furnishing Soldiers for the Continental Army notwithstanding the Difficulties they have laboured under & that the Circumstances of said County are distressing at present on various Accounts. Your Mem^o are of Opinion that the Exaction of Penalties from a People in Distress for not doing what was not in their power to perform would greatly tend to discourage them & so operate to the Disadvantage of the Commonwealth Wherefore your Mem^o pray that the peculiar Case & Circumstances of said Towns may be duly considered & that they may be exempted from any Penalties which they may have incurred for not furnishing the Soldiers required of them by said Resolve or that Relief may be granted them in such other Way as the Court in their Wisdom & Goodness may think proper & your Mem^o as in Duty bound will ever pray &c

Nath^l Wells, Edw^d Grow, Simon Frye

Action on Foregoing.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives October 30th 1782.

On the petition of Nathaniel Wells Esq^r and others in behalf of the County of York setting forth that, for the want of a Circulating medium and from other peculiar Difficulties attending them it was not in their power to raise the three months men called for, to serve in the Continental Army July A. D. 1781: tho they used their utmost Exertions to effect the same & praying that the penalty for not raising a part of said men may be remitted to them Resolved that the prayer of said petition be so far granted that a fifth part of said penalty be remitted to the several towns in said County and that the present towns in said County be fined & pay sixteen pounds per man for every man not raised according to the resolve for raising said men and assessed accordingly in the tax next to be issued —

Memorial Selectmen of Boothbay.

To the Honorable the Senate & House of Representatives for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

We the Selectmen of the Township of Boothbay beg leave to represent to your Honors the confus'd and irregular manner in which the Town papers ly at present on account of the shift of Officers last March meeting in particular the Treasurer we cannot find any regularity in the Treasurers Books no proper Settlement from the beginning to end of it & the former Treasurer after a lawful Demand of him to Deliver up the receipts & other papers in his hands belonging to the Town has absolutely refus'd, which occasions great inconveniences for which reason we wou'd beg your honors to take the matter into your wise consideration & if your Honors should think proper we would beg that you would grant or

appoint a Committee in Sum of the Neighbouring Towns to inquire into this matter & see that there is a proper Settlement of our Towns Accounts— We wou'd likewise represent to your honors the Obstinacy of your Militia Officers in this Town, they have taken several Fines from men that they Draughted & cou'd not go into the service & have never accounted with the Treasurer for one Farthing since the War which seems to us to be very unjust We wou'd beg therefore that if your honors shou'd appoint a Committee as above that they may be empowered & directed to call the Militia Officers to account Respecting the fines & see that a proper settlement is made. We would likewise represent to your Honors the great inconvenience of having two Companies of Militia in this little poor Town where there is not more than one Company of able bodied Men, having so many Officers screen'd from Draughts comes very heavy on the remainder. We would therefore beg if your Honors think proper to bring the Militia in this Town into one Company—

Hoping your Honors will grant this our most earnest petition

We are your Honors Most Obedient Humble Serv^{ts}

Benj^a Sawyer }
 John Alley } Major part of the Select men of Boothbay
 Boothbay Oct^r 25th 1782

Memorial James Bowdoin et als.

To the Honorable the Senate and the Honorable the House
 of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachu-
 setts in General Court Assembled at Boston

The Memorial of James Bowdoin, David Jeffries and
 James Bowdoin jun^r for themselves and others, humbly
 sheweth,

Lincoln be Discharged from the Service for which they were
Respectively engaged from and after the 20th ^A Day of this
present Month ^B and that their Roles be made up and paid to
that time and no longer

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate Nov^r 2^d 1782

Read & Concurred with Amendment at A dele from A to
B & insert the twentieth Day of November next

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Nov^r 2^d 1782

Read and concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd

John Hancock

Resolve on Petition Jonathan Bowman.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Oct^r 14th 1782

On the Petition of Jonathan Bowman Esq^r Clerk of the
Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the County of
Lincoln on Behalf of the said Court Resolved,

That the Prayer of the said Petition be granted & that the
Justices of the said Court be & they hereby are empowered to
assess upon the Polls & Estates of the Inhabitants of the said
County the Sum of five hundred Pounds for defraying the
Charges therein mentioned

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate October 14th 1782

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Certificate in Favor Schr. Unity.

This Certifies

That the Sum of Eighteen pounds sixteen shillings & six pence, for one sixteenth part of the loss & hire of the Schooner Unity & appurtenances on the Penobscot Expedition July 1779, and three pounds four shillings for Interest thereon to the 1st Instant, amounting to Twenty two pounds & six pence, in specie, is due to M^r John Symmes, which when paid will be in full for the same £22 . 0 . 6

Thomas Ivers, Peter Roe Dalton } Com^{tee} for Audit^r Acc^{ts}
of the late Board of War.

His Excellency the Governor & the Hon^{ble} the Council of the Boston 16th October 1782.

Commonwth of Massachusetts —

In Council Oct^r 23^d 1782

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John Avery Sec^r

Report and Resolve on Petition Col. Allen et als.

The Committee of both Houses appointed on the letters from Col^o Allen & Col^o Lithgow, & the petitions of Juniper Berthiaume & the Indian Chiefs, & also to consider the propriety of appointing a Naval officer at the Port of Machias report by way of resolve

John Pitts p^r order

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

Resolved that the Governor with advice of Council be and hereby is requested to issue orders on the Commissary General to supply the Eastern Department under the Command of Col^o John Allen, according to the recommendations of

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Common Wealth of Massachusetts

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Justice of the peace within and for the Same County on the 24th day of September 1781 at two OClock in the afternoon — that your Petitioner early on June 24th day of September, left his own house which was about 51 Miles from the said Justice's, with an intention to answer to the same Suit; but as he was obliged to go by Water & the Wind blowing violently against him he did not arrive at the said Justice's untill some little time after the hour appointed for s^d Tryal, & when he did arrive he was informed by said Justice that he was defaulted; surprized at a procedure so contrary to Justice & the practice of Courts, your Petitioner then demanded an appeal, but was told it was too late, for the Court was adjourned, by means of which your petitioner has been wrongfully put to great expence & trouble as he was fully prepared to disprove the facts alledged by the plaintiff, could he have had an Opportunity & the Reputation of the said Hartson has been greatly injured as the generality of People do not know the distinction between an Action for Trespass and a prosecution for Theft & therefore still suppose that he has been convicted of that Crime—your Petitioner therefore prays that your Honours would take the matter into your wise consideration & grant, in tenderness to the Character of a helpless & in-offensive Infant, that the said James Howard, Susanna his Wife & Hartson Coney may have leave to appeal from the Judgment of the said Justice to the next Inferiour Court of Common pleas to be holden at Pownalbor^e within & for the same County on the first Tuesday of June next & your Petitioner will pray &c

James Howard

Deposition of Abiel Lovejoy.

I Abiel Lovejoy of Lawful age testify & declare that on the twenty-fourth day of September 1781 I was at the house

of James Howard Esq in Hallowell, who then told me he was going before Justice North to defend an action brought by Nathaniel Hearsey against the said Howard, Susannah his wife & Hartson Coney & the said Howard desired your deponant to attend at Justice Norths upon the tryal, Just before I got to Justice Norths house I saw a number of persons who told me that Justice Howard was called out by default—presently after I went in to the house of Justice North, & I there saw Justice Howard tender to Justice North five or six dollars to pay the costs & he also prayed that the default might be taken off & that he might re enter the action & come to tryal & the said Justice North refused to grant the same—& also to grant the said Howard an appeal—I further declare to the best of my knowledge that I arrived at Justice Norths about three O’Clock & the time of tryal was appointed to be at two

Abiel Lovejoy

Lincoln Ss Oct^r 3^d 1782

personally appear’d the above named Abiel Lovejoy Esq^r & after being carefully examined & cautioned to testify the truth the whole truth & nothing but the truth in the cause in which this deposition is to be used made oath to the truth of the above deposition by him subscribed—Taken at the request of James Howard Esq^r to be used before the General Court on the Petition of the said James Howard—Nathaniel Hearsey the adverse party was notified and present at the taking of this deposition before me

Wm Langdon Justice of peace

Deposition of Thomas Sewall.

I Thomas Sewall of lawful age testify & say that on Monday the twenty fourth day of September 1781 I was at the dwelling house of Justice North in Pittstown and I there saw

order the same to be struck out of the said Tax bill: which with the said Resolve, and the intended Act of Incorporation (the whole so happily contrived to Answer M^r Snow's purpose) were all intended to be compleated without your Memorialists knowing any thing of the matter. With regard to the Petition of said Jaques and others for Incorporating the aforesaid Tract, we beg leave to observe, that the Kennebeck Company, of which your Memorialists are a part, have with very great expence been Setling their Lands, and from a Wilderness, have Setled the Towns of Pownalborough, Bowdoinham, Pittston, Hallowell, Vasselborough, Winslow, Winthrop, and other places, in all of which a considerable part, and in some of them two thirds of the land have been given away to settlers; That the said Towns are incorporated, and pay Taxes to the Government, of which Taxes your Memorialists and others of said Company pay a considerable part.—

That the said Company built Fort Western, and a Fort at Pownalborough, and furnished both of them with Cannon and Small Arms for the Use of the Government, And Also built a large Commodious House at Pownallborough to Accommodate the County as a Court House, with the needfull conveniences, and appropriated one of the Block Houses of the last mentioned fort for a Goal, and by these and other exertions, which cost them a great deal of Money, they have brought that part of the Country from a Wilderness State, to a State of Habitation and Improvement.

That they were prosecuting other Settlements & improvements when the War with Britain commenced; That the said War, which by means of the Enemies Cruisers and Armed boats, and by small parties of them harrassing and threatening the Inhabitants has operated greatly to the detriment of the said County, put a Stop to those Settlements & Improvements: and at the same time necessarily called our Attention

to other objects nearer home and more interesting and essential to the general safety.

That in the confused State of things occasioned by the War, and when Law could have no effect, many people improved so favorable an opportunity, and set themselves down on Kennebeck lands, taking the best they could find, without liberty from the Proprietors, and in defiance of Law.

That although the said Jaques and some of the Petitioners have settled with consent of the Proprietors, there is notwithstanding, of the Land petitioned to be Incorporated, a Tract ten miles long, and more than Six Miles broad, which is either wholly a Wilderness, or if there are any persons settled on it, there is not one of them but is a Trespasser, and has settled in defiance of all Law.

That your Memorialists humbly conceive your Honors will do nothing to encourage such lawless Proceedings, and that the regular plan of Settlement, which they have been carrying on & mean to continue to execute, will not be interrupted and broke in upon by granting the prayer of the said Petition for Incorporation—Your Memorialists, therefore humbly pray Your Honors that the said petition may be dismissed; and also that your Honors will please to reconsider and repeal the Resolve aforesaid for Transferring a part of the Tax of Harpswell to the Land described in the said petition, and also discontinue the clause in the Tax bill for that purpose: all which is humbly submitted.—

James Bowdoin

David Jeffries

Ja: Bowdoin Jun^r

Resolve on Foregoing.

In Senate October 30th 1782

Read & thereupon Ordered that Samuel Baker Esq^r with

order the same to be struck out of the said Tax bill: which with the said Resolve, and the intended Act of Incorporation (the whole so happily contrived to Answer M^r Snow's purpose) were all intended to be compleated without your Memorialists knowing any thing of the matter. With regard to the Petition of said Jaques and others for Incorporating the aforesaid Tract, we beg leave to observe, that the Kennebeck Company, of which your Memorialists are a part, have with very great expence been Setling their Lands, and from a Wilderness, have Setled the Towns of Pownalborough, Bowdoinham, Pittston, Hallowell, Vasselborough, Winslow, Winthrop, and other places, in all of which a considerable part, and in some of them two thirds of the land have been given away to settlers; That the said Towns are incorporated, and pay Taxes to the Government, of which Taxes your Memorialists and others of said Company pay a considerable part.—

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James Bowdoin

David Jeffries

Ja: Bowdoin Jun^r

Resolve on Foregoing.

In Senate October 30th 1782

Read & thereupon Ordered that Samuel Baker Esq^r with

And whereas in order to render the said partition compleat and effectual in Law it may be necessary to make and execute a deed or deeds of Partition, division, release or Quit claim

Therefore resolved that the said Committee on the part of the Commonwealth or any two of them be and hereby are fully impowered in the name and behalf of the said Commonwealth to join with the s^d Committee on the part of the residue ^F of s^d proprietors in making and duly executing according to Law a deed or deeds of Partition and division of the premises or in case the said Committee ^G should judge it most convenient to make partition of the premises by making and executing a deed or deeds of Release and Quit Claims then the said Committee on the part of this Commonwealth are hereby in the Name and behalf of this Commonwealth fully Authorized and impowered to make and duly execute according to Law a deed or deeds of release and Quit Claims to such part or parts of the premises as they shall agree to be set off to the said Residue ^H of said proprietors to hold in severalty and to receive singular ^I deeds from the said Committee of the said Proprietors, and it is further Resolved that all deeds of Partition division release or Quit claim which shall be made and duly executed by virtue of this resolve and awarding to the true Intent and meaning thereof shall be considered as valid and effectual in law to all Intents and purposes as any deeds of Partition division release or quit claim made and duly executed according to Law by or between any parties whomsoever — And it is further resolved that the said Committee on the part of this Commonwealth be and hereby are directed to cause all deeds in favor thereof — relating to the premises to be recorded by the register of the County of York, with the records of said County and then filed in the Secretary's Office and the said Committee after having compleated the business of their Commission are hereby directed to lay

their Accounts of Time and expence before the General Court for examination, allowance & payment.

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate Nov^r 12, 1782.

Read & Concurred with Amendments as on the annexed paper.

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd John Hancock

In the House of Representatives Nov 11 1782

Read & concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Com^{tee} for making partition of Lands at s^d Eastward Amendments

At A Dele are & insert were. At B Dele the Hon^{ble}

At C Dele Residue of At D Dele Residue of At E Insert to said Parties At F Dele Residue of At G Dele Committee & Insert Committees At H Dele Residue of said. At I Dele Singular & Insert Similar

Representation in Behalf Inhab^{ts} Machias Plantation.

To his excellency the Governor & the Hon^{ble} the Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Representation of the Subscribers being a Committee appointed by & on behalf of the Inhabitants of the Plantation of Machias —

Humbly Sheweth

That notwithstanding the large & repeated supplies sent here The Garrison of this place now is & has been for some months past, in a most deplorable situation upon almost every account. Col^o Allan has removed himself and Family, to

Justice of the peace within and for the Same County on the 24th day of September 1781 at two OClock in the afternoon — that your Petitioner early on June 24th day of September, left his own house which was about 51 Miles from the said Justice's, with an intention to answer to the same Suit; but as he was obliged to go by Water & the Wind blowing violently against him he did not arrive at the said Justice's untill some little time after the hour appointed for s^d Tryal, & when he did arrive he was informed by said Justice that he was defaulted; surprized at a procedure so contrary to Justice & the practice of Courts, your Petitioner then demanded an appeal, but was told it was too late, for the Court was adjourned, by means of which your petitioner has been wrongfully put to great expence & trouble as he was fully prepared to disprove the facts alledged by the plaintiff, could he have had an Opportunity & the Reputation of the said Hartson has been greatly injured as the generality of People do not know the distinction between an Action for Trespass and a prosecution for Theft & therefore still suppose that he has been convicted of that Crime—your Petitioner therefore prays that your Honours would take the matter into your wise consideration & grant, in tenderness to the Character of a helpless & in-offensive Infant, that the said James Howard, Susanna his Wife & Hartson Coney may have leave to appeal from the Judgment of the said Justice to the next Inferiour Court of Common pleas to be holden at Pownalbor^o within & for the same County on the first Tuesday of June next & your Petitioner will pray &c

James Howard

Deposition of Abiel Lovejoy.

I Abiel Lovejoy of Lawful age testify & declare that on the twenty-fourth day of September 1781 I was at the house

of James Howard Esq in Hallowell, who then told me he was going before Justice North to defend an action brought by Nathaniel Hearsey against the said Howard, Susannah his wife & Hartson Coney & the said Howard desired your deponant to attend at Justice Norths upon the tryal, Just before I got to Justice Norths house I saw a number of persons who told me that Justice Howard was called out by default—presently after I went in to the house of Justice North, & I there saw Justice Howard tender to Justice North five or six dollars to pay the costs & he also prayed that the default might be taken off & that he might re enter the action & come to tryal & the said Justice North refused to grant the same—& also to grant the said Howard an appeal—I further declare to the best of my knowledge that I arrived at Justice Norths about three O’Clock & the time of tryal was appointed to be at two

Abiel Lovejoy

Lincoln Ss Oct^r 3^d 1782

personally appear’d the above named Abiel Lovejoy Esq^r & after being carefully examined & cautioned to testify the truth the whole truth & nothing but the truth in the cause in which this deposition is to be used made oath to the truth of the above deposition by him subscribed—Taken at the request of James Howard Esq^r to be used before the General Court on the Petition of the said James Howard—Nathaniel Hearsey the adverse party was notified and present at the taking of this deposition before me

Wm Langdon Justice of peace

Deposition of Thomas Sewall.

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Wm Langdon Justice of peace

Deposition of Thomas Sewall.

I Thomas Sewall of lawful age testify & say that on Monday the twenty fourth day of September 1781 I was at the dwelling house of Justice North in Pittstown and I there saw

take our distressing Situation under your Serious Consideration & discharge us of these Taxes that were due before Peace was made & your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray

Sign^d in name & by Appointment of the Town by

Henter Hunter,	}	Selectmen of Bristol
Thomas Johnston		

Petition of George Smith.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts To the Hon'ble the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled.

The petition of George Smith, late an Inhabitant of Ireland, humbly sheweth that in the year 1779 — having been informed that great encouragement was given to those who should emigrate from other countries, and undertake the Cultivation of the American Wilderness, he with his wife removed from their native country, hoping to approve themselves useful Inhabitants in some parts of the United States; — During the continuance of the war, your petitioner did not pursue the object which he had immediately in view, but engaged in the manufacture of Gunpowder in this Commonwealth, and pursued that hazardous business in such manner as he presumes has proved advantageous to the Community; — The return of Peace renders his continuance in that business longer unnecessary; — and he now wishes to prosecute the original design of his coming to America, and to put himself in a capacity to exercise the employment of a Malster and Brewer in which he served an apprenticeship — & being informed of a small gore of land | in the County of Cumberland | laying between the Towns Bakerstown & Raymondtown & supposed to contain about six hundred acres, he humbly offers himself as a purchaser thereof, & hopes he shall meet

with such encouragement as that he may invite over to this Country, some of his Relations who are waiting to hear of his success.

And your petitioner as in duty bound shall pray—

George Smith

Report of Committee in re Lands in Town of Sanford.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Jan^y 1st 1783

The Committee appointed by the general Court by a Resolve passed the 9th of Feb^y 1782 to make Enquiry into the Circumstances of the Settlement of certain Lands laying in the Town of Sanford in the County of York by Ebenezer Hall & others which according to their Representation in their Petition did belong to the late Governor Hutchinson &c have attended that Service & find that the said Lands were Settled under the Circumstances represented by the Petitioners & have Viewed said Lands containing Three Thousand Six Hundred & Fifty Acres including Ponds & heaths Bounded as follows Viz beginning at the Western Corner of a Tract of Land called Coxhall at a pitch pine Tree marked on four Sides thence running North East Eight Hundred & Eighty Rods to a white oak Tree marked on four Sides thence North West Six Hundred & Sixty Three Rods Ten feet & an half to a small white oak Tree marked on four Sides thence South West Eight Hundred & Eighty Rods to a white Oak Tree marked on four Sides & thence South East Six Hundred & Sixty Three Rods Ten Feet & an half to the place begun at Your Committee are of Opinion that within the Limits afore-said are contained about Five Hundred Acres of Heaths & Ponds which being allowed as such & deducted Your Com-

mittee Estimate the Residue considered as in a State of Nature at the Rate of Three Shillings an Acre amounting in the whole to Four Hundred Seventy Two pounds Ten Shillings

Your Committee beg leave to mention that from the best Information which they have been able to obtain that the Fee of the said Lands was never vested in the said Governor Hutchinson & that he only held a part thereof as a Tenant by Courtesy but the Fee of the said Lands was Vested in one Grizzel Sanford, the Heirs of the Wife of the said Hutchinson & the Heirs of the last Wife of the late L^t Governor Oliver dec^d therefore can not in the Opinion of your Committee be regularly granted to the Petitioners untill it shall appear that the said Lands are the property of this Commonwealth from a Confiscation thereof in due Course of Law —

John Hill p^r order

Memorial of Proprietors of Land in York County.

To the Honourable the Senate and House of Representatives
in General Court assembled —

The Memorial of the Proprietors of Certain lands in the County of York under Hartaken Symonds humbly sheweth that your Memorialists are informed that Jeremiah Eastman and others have petitioned your honours to grant them certain lands said by them to have formerly belonged to Thomas Hutchinson Esq & situate in Sandford in said County — Now your Memorialists beg leave to represent to your honours that said lands are their property, that they never were said Hutchinson's & are situated in Coxhall in said County — That the determination of the Question depends upon settling

the line between Sandford & Coxhall judicially — That your memorialists and persons under them are in actual possession of part of those lands; that a law suit is now pending the determination of which will probably settle the dispute — Wherefore your memorialists humbly pray that your honours would not pass upon the said petition but will dismiss the same, & make no order touching said lands until the title to them is determined in due course of law — And your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray

by Sam^l Baker } their Agent

York Ss | June 22^d 1768.

Mess^{rs} Joseph Simpson Jun^r Benjamin Harmon and Jonathan Johnson aforenamed personally appearing solemnly made Oath that in making partition and Division of the Lands within mentioned they would do it Justly and Impartially according to their best skill and Judgment before me

Nath^l Wells Jus^t Peace

York Ss |

Pursuant to the foregoing appointment and power to us given by the Hon^{ble} the Justices of the Sup^r Court after having given due Notice to all concerned & being Sworn have made Partition and Division of the remainder of the Tract of Land of Eight Miles square within mention^d which we find to be fourteen thousand and six hundred Acres & have so far proceeded to set off to the Heirs of the within named Peleg Sanford his Interest therein being one fourth part thereof containing three thousand six hundred and fifty acres by the meets and bounds following viz^t beginning at the Western Corner of Coxhall so called at a Pitch Pine Tree marked on four Sides and thence running North East by Coxhall aforesaid Eight Hundred and Eighty Rods to a White Oak Tree mark^d on four Sides thence North West six hundred & sixty

three Rods ten feet and an half to a small White Oak Tree marked on four sides thence South West Eight Hundred and Eighty Rods to a White Oak Tree mark'd on four sides thence South East one hundred & thirty four rods ten feet and an half to a pitch pine Tree standing at the North Corner of the within mentioned Nineteen thousand Acres then South East Five hundred and twenty nine Rods by the said Nineteen Thousand Acres to the place began at To hold to the said Heirs of the said Peleg Sanford as Witness our Hands at Sanford June 22^d 1768

York Ss | July 5th 1768.

Jos Simpson Jun^r

Benj^a Harmon

Jon^a Johnson

In the Sup^r Court then setting the aforewritten Division was read and accepted

Att Sam^l Winthrop Cler

Recorded according to the Orig^l rec^d July 6th 1768 —

Att Dan^l Moulton Reg^r

Lib^o 41 fol^o 49.

Note this Partition was made In pursuance of a Warrant granted by the Court in Answer to the Petition of Andrew Oliver Esq^r & Mary his Wife Tho^s Hutchinson Esq^r as he is Tenant by the Curtesy & in the behalf of the Children of his late Wife Margaret dec^d And Grizell Sanford Gentlemⁿ The s^d Mary Margaret & Grizell being Daught^{rs} & Coheirs of William Sanford late of Newport Gent. Dec^d

And is Record^d next before the s^d Division

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the House of Representatives Feb^{ry} 9th 1782

Whereas it appears from the Representation of Eben Hall and other Petitioners Inhabitants of the Town of Sanford in the County of York that some years ago they settled upon

certain Lands in said Town, which belonged to the late Governor Hutchinson and have made considerable Improvements thereon in Expectation of obtaining a good Title to the same. Whereas the said Lands are by Confiscation now become the Property of this Commonwealth, and the Committee for selling confiscated Estates in said County are impowered to dispose of those Lands as well as other Lands confiscated to any Person or Persons indiscriminately. And Whereas the Petitioners have applied to the Gen Court for an exclusive Right of purchasing said Lands for a reasonable consideration.

Therefore Resolved that Jn^o Hill Nath Wells and John Frost Esq^r be and hereby are appointed a Committee to make full Enquiry into the Circumstances of the Settlement of said Lands, who are hereby directed at the Request and Expence of the Petitioners to view and estimate said Lands at such price as the same would have been worth in a State of Nature and take or cause to be taken such Plan or Plans and prepare such Descriptions thereof as may be requisite as Preparatories to a Grant of the same to the said Petitioners and make report of their Doing in Consequence of this Resolve to the Gen^l Court as soon as may be. And the said Committee for selling confiscated Estates are hereby directed to suspend the Sale of said Lands and Prosecution against the present Possession thereof till the further Order of the General Court any Law or Resolve to the contrary notwithstanding

Sent up for Concurrence

Nath^l Gorham Spk^r

In Senate March 8th 1782

Read & Concurred

S Adams Pres^t

Approved John Hancock

True Copy Attest

John Avery Sec^r

Petition of Caleb Davis.

To His Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Council
 Boston Jan^r 6th 1782

Caleb Davis begs Leave to Represent to your Excellency & Honors that by a Resolve of the Gen^l Court passed the 7th of March Last he was directed to procure five Whale Boats for the Use of the Troops Raised in The County of Lincoln, in Conformity to which he Impowered Maj^r Lithgo to Contract for Said Boats in Said County Two of which Boats only have been procured the Ammount of which as Certified by Maj^r Lithgo is Forty Two pounds Twelve shillings and as your Petitioner presumes there will not be occasion for Any More Boats, The time for which said Troops were Raised being Expired, he prays your Excellency & Honors to grant him a Warrant for the above sum agreeable to the Resolve affores^d and as in Duty bound shall Ever Pray—

Caleb Davis.

In Council January 7th 1783

R^d & Advised that a W^t be drawn on the Treas^r agreeable to the above Representation—

Petition Samuel Cobb, With Certificate.

To the Honorable Senate and the Honorable House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in General Court assembled—

The Petition of Samuel Cobb of Falmouth in the County of Cumberland Agent to the Estate of William Tyng late of said Falmouth—an absentee, humbly shews—

That Commissioners have been duly appointed to receive and examine the Claims upon said Estate; who have per-

formed the said Service, and have made report to the Judge of Probate, of the Sums, due from said Estate to the Creditors of the same—

That he has advanced divers Sums of Money—and spent much of his time in attending to the settlement of said Claims & conducting the Business of an Agent to said Estate—

That he has settled his Account of Agency with the Hon^{ble} William Gorham Esq^r Judge of Probate for the County aforesaid—That the List of Claims & his Account of Agency as allowed by said Judge amount in the whole to the Sum of Five hundred and thirty five Pounds two shillings lawful money—and

That there is no Personal Estate of said Tyng (except a Tankard & a large Silver Cup which is in the Treasury of this Commonwealth) to enable him to discharge said Claims & satisfy said Account— He therefore humbly prays that your Honors wou'd pass some Order for the Sale of the Real Estate of said W^m Tyng, that the Creditors may be paid & himself reimbursed the said Charges of his Agency— He some time ago petitioned your Honors to order the aforesaid Cup and Tankard to be put into his hands that they might be appropriated to the aforesaid purposes, but as no order has been passed upon his Petition he begs leave to renew his Request, and to pray that he may have an order for the same, that they may be disposed of for the Benefit of the said Creditors—

And as in Duty bound will pray

Sam^l Cobb

Falm^e Jan^y 8, 1783

Cumberland Ss January 8th 1783

This certifies that the List of Claims upon the Estate of William Tyng an Absentee, as returned into the Probate Office & allowed by the Judge of Probate for said County, together with the Agents Account as allowed by the said

Judge amount in the whole to the Sum of Five hundred & thirty five Pounds two shillings — as represented in the foregoing Petition — and that there is no Personal Estate mentioned in the Inventory of said Tyng's Estate — except a Silver Cup & Tankard said to be in the Treasury of the Commonwealth —

Att Sam Freeman Reg Prob.

Petition of William M^cCobb.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts. To the Hon^{ble} Senate & the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives of s^d Commonwealth in General Court Assembled —

The Petition of William M^cCobb of Boothbay in the County of Lincoln humbly sheweth.

That on the 3^d day of Feb^r 1780 a Complaint was preferred to your Petitioner as a justice of the peace within & for s^d County of Lincoln, by L^t Col^o Andrew Reed and Cap^t Ichabod Pinkam, both militia Officers and resident within s^d Town of Boothbay, against Patrick M^cGuyer, Thomas M^cGuyer & Ebenezer Fullerton all Inhabitants of the same Town upon an Act of the State for taking up and securing inimical persons &c and thereupon your Petitioner issued his warrant for apprehending said persons, by virtue of which, they were all convened before your Petitioner on the fifth day of the same Month, & the Oath of fidelity and allegiance was severally tendered to them by your Petitioner agreeable to said Act, which, s^d Oath they then and there obstinately refused to take whereupon your Petitioner issued his warrant of committment according to said act against s^d Persons and directed the same to a constable of the same Town by force of which they were conveyed to Pownalborough where the County Goal is kept; but in a few days the said Constable

without having committed said Persons to Goal, returned to your Petitioner with an application from them signifying their penitence & a desire of being then admitted to take said Oath, which application was accompanied by a Letter from Charles Cushing Esq^r & another from Jonathan Bowman Esq^r two principal Gentlemen of the County, who gave it as their opinion that your Petitioner would be justifiable in admitting said persons to said Oath, even in the then advanced Stage of the proceedings; but though your Petitioner placed great confidence in the opinion of said Gentlemen, & felt himself disposed to adopt every legal Measure for the liberation of said Persons, as it appeared they were then in a state of humiliating contrition and ready to do anything rather than go to Goal, yet a superior regard to the Laws of this Country, which he invariably considered, as the rule of his conduct joined to the exclamations of the people against said Persons whom they viewed as dangerous enemies, induced your Petitioner to consult the Committee of said Town before he took a step of so much importance as the Manu-mission of said Persons; accordingly the said Committee were convened, & after great consultation & debate a Majority advised that said Persons might be admitted to take said Oath upon the following Conditions Viz^t 1 — that they should give Bonds for the due observance of the Laws — that they should not depart without the limits of Boothbay and Bristol without permission from the Militia Officers of either of said Towns & that they should pay all Costs that had then arisen — this determination of the Committee was no sooner communicated to said Persons by your Petitioner than they readily acquiesced therein — gave Bonds for the performance of said Conditions, and their Notes of hand for the payment of said Costs amounting in the whole to the sum of £121. 10 each the same being equal to £ specie, which same Notes they sometime afterwards severally took up and discharged,

& thus matters rested, until through the prevailing influence of the British Garrison at Bagwaduce, upon the opinions & practice of many people in this County who might form the Jury said Persons thought a favourable opportunity now offered of compelling your petitioner under colour of Law to refund the Money they paid on said Notes; accordingly the said Thomas McGuire brought his action for money had & received to his use against your Petitioner at September Term 1781, by way of experiment, whose example in case of success, was to be followed by the said Patrick M^cGuire & Fullerton but on trial of the cause the same Term, your Petitioner recovered Costs against the said Thomas M^cGuire, who appealed to the next Supreme Court for said County; but in the mean time, while the said appeal was depending your Petitioner & the said Thomas M^cGuire, Patrick M^cGuire & Ebenezer Fullerton left all said matters in dispute between them to Arbitration & at the same time agreed that no Attorney should be employed on either side before the arbitrators, but afterwards when the Arbitrators met to decide upon the matters submitted to them an Attorney appeared on the part of said Persons, at which your Petitioner was much surprised and immediately represented the injustice of the procedure to the Arbitrators, but as the said Attorney insisted notwithstanding the s^d agreement on arguing the matter before the Arbitrators, your Petitioner was obliged to employ a person to go near 20 miles in quest of another Attorney who happened to be previously engag'd and could not therefore attend the arbitration; upon this the said Arbitrators used many persuasions to induce your Petitioner to come to a hearing without an Attorney on his part to which he at length consented upon this condition that they would not suffer the said Attorney to have an undue influence over their judgments — the Parties then went to a hearing during which the said Attorney debated the matter very fully & expatiated

largely on the injustice of the said Act^s while your Petitioner unaided by Counsel & unskilled in the science of pleading did nothing more than barely produce the Law upon which said persons were committed & mentioned some of the leading facts relative to the transaction & then submitted his defence to the arbitrators, who on the 30th day of August last published their several awards by which they ordered that your Petitioner should pay to the said Thomas M^cGuire the sum of £37..13..7, to the said Patrick M^cGuire £10..1.. & to the said Ebenezer Fullerton £10..1..—amounting in the whole to the Sum of £57..15..7 lawful Money in specie at which your Petitioner could not but be greatly shocked & asked the Arbitrators how it was possible for him to avoid committing said Persons as the Law was so clear & explicit to which the Chairman after hesitating some time answered that said Act was a very loose one, that there were several Acts of the General Court which he thought did more hurt than good & that for his part he would be always very cautious of them—from this explanation, your Petitioner conceives it must be apparent to every impartial observer that said Awards were founded principally on the supposed injustice of said Act with which if true, it is evident that your Petitioner as an Executive Officer, whose business it is to obey the Laws of the state without inquiring into the justice or injustice of them, had nothing to do, and of this the Arbitrators must have been sensible if they had not suffered themselves to be strangely & unaccountably led away by the Arts of the said Attorney—

As your Petitioner acted intirely in obedience to the Laws in committing said Persons, and as the determination of the Arbitrators in the present instance is therefore palpably erroneous unjust & cruell your Petitioner humbly prays that your Honours would be pleased to vacate said Awards & revive the said Thomas M^cGuire's action against him

so that he may have a fair & impartial Tryal at the next Supreme judicial Court by a Jury of his unbiased fellow Citizens, which is all he wishes or aspires to — & your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray &c

W^m M^cCobb

Boothbay Jan^r 10th 1783

Resolve on Foregoing.

In Senate June 11th 1783 —

Read again and no answer appearing thereupon Orderd, that Charles Turner Esq^r with such as the Hon^{ble} House shall join be a Committee to take this Petition together with the papers accompanying the same into consideration & report that may be proper to be done thereon

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives June 16th 1783

Read & concurred & Mr Childs of Pittsfield & Mr Lovell are joined

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Petition Settlers on Sandy River.

To the Hon^{ble} Senate and The Hon^{ble} House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Petition of a Number of Settlers on a Tract of Land lying on Sandy River (so called) in the County of Lincoln Humbly Sheweth,

That your Petitioners, drove by Personal and Family wants and invited by the Goodness of the Soil, have adventured into the Wilderness and made Settlements on a Tract

of Land Lying on Sandy River, next above a Township on the same River, at present, known by the name of Colburn's Town; That it is forty miles and upwards from the nearest water-Carriage to the said Tract of Land; That hence we have encountered and gone through many Difficulties, Hardships and Fatigues in making this Beginning and been at considerable Cost in clearing a Road from the Inhabitants in Colburn's Town to our Settlements, That what we have already done would be a great Encouragement to the speedy Settlement of the Lands thereabout provided, a valid Title was obtainable and That the uncertain and precarious Tenure by which we, at present, hold Our Possessions is a great Discouragement to us and hindrance to the Growth of the Settlement: Your Petitioners therefore pray your Honors to take Our present Situation under your wise and serious Consideration, and (if in your great Wisdom you should think fit) To Order a Town-ship to be laid out on Sandy River Six miles square — that is to say to begin and be Bounded on the upper Line of Colburn's Town (so Called) and, extending three Miles on each Side of the River, to run up said River Six Miles; and, with said Order, to Grant and Confirm unto us your Honors Humble Petitioners (now dwelling on Lands within said Bounds) the Lots (containing Two Hundred Acres each) which we have severally laid out and began improvements upon, On some Conditions which your Honors shall think fit to prescribe: And we pray your Honors, in adjusting the Terms on which we are to hold our Possessions, to take into your wise Consideration the many Difficulties and Hardships, which unavoidably attend Beginning a Settlement, so far into the Wilderness and at so great a Remove from Navigation.—Further, to urge Our Request, we beg Leave to represent to your Honors, that as the Soil of the proposed Township is very Good, if it was laid out in Lots, and to be sold, it may reasonably be presumed, that the Sale

would be quick and that the Settlements already made would Considerably enhance the Price of all the Rest of the Land, to the Emolument of the Commonwealth, And your Petitioners Beg Leave also to suggest, that they are Ready, if required as a Condition of Holding their Possessions, to be at the Expence of Running the proposed Town Lines and laying out an equal Number of Lots with those they have Laid out and Settled, & to do as much more for the Encouragement and Benefit of the future Settlers in said Township, as Your Honors shall think Reasonable to exact.

And your Humble Petitioners as in Duty bound shall Ever Pray &c

Thomas Flint,	Jacob Sawyer,	Thomas Paine,
Jesse Flint,	Paul Dodge,	Samuel Baker,
Benjamin Day	Benjamin Flint,	Benjamin Adams,
John Day,	Thomas Humphreys	Samuel Fairfield,
Thomas Hiscock,	David Humphreys,	Thomas Caldwell,
John Hiscock	Mickel Weathren,	Francis Peusty,
Benjamin Day jun ^r	John Rollings,	Samuel Rollings
William Read,	Joseph Rust,	Briggs Furman

Sandy River Jan^r 15, 1783

Petition of Thomas Child.

To the Hon^{ble} Senate & the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives
of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court
Assembled,

Tho: Child of Falmouth in the County of Cumberland
humbly shews —

That so long ago as the 18th July 1778 he took out Letters
of Agency on the Estate of Trea^r Waldo late of said Fal-
mouth an Absentee — That at the same time Commissioners
were appointed to receive & examine the Claims of the Credi-

tors to said Estate according to Law — That the Commiss^{rs} duly attended that Service and made report to the Judge of Probate on the 13th October 1779: That your Petitioner having first settled his Account of Agency, soon after made Application to this Hon^{ble} Court, for liberty to sell so much of the said Absentees Real Estate as wou'd be sufficient to pay the aforesaid Creditors & the Ballance of said Account, But he was informed that the application was improperly made & that he must apply to the Judicial Court for such Licence. He accordingly applied to the next Court that was then afterwards holden in this County, and was there told that the General Court had superceeded their Power in this respect by the appointment of a Special Committee to make sale of Absentees Estates — your Petitioner then applied to said Committee but they told him they cou'd do nothing for him as they considered it was not in their Commission to sell any such Estates until they were confiscated — your Petitioner thus disappointed in his endeavour to obtain the payment of said Demands and being under the disagreeable Necessity of supporting all this while in his own family and out of his own Pocket, an old helpless Negro belonging to said Estate who has such an offensive sore Leg, that he can get no body else to take him — was obliged to apply again to your Honors for relief His last Petition was presented to your Honors in June last — But this was in like manner unfortunately rejected; for this reason (as he was informed) that sufficient provision was already made in the Laws for the purpose mentioned, your Petitioner again applied to the before mentioned Committee, and as said Estate was confiscated at the last Court which was holden in said County he supposed the former difficulties were all remov'd. and he should obtain the justice he had so long ineffectually sought for but the Committee inform'd him they cou'd afford him no Relief, as they had received an Order from your Hon^{rs}

not to sell any of the Absentees Estates in this County until the further Order of the General Court— Your Petitioner is therefore constrained to renew his application to your Honors & to pray that your Honors Order last mentioned may be so far reconsider'd as that said Committee may be at liberty to sell so much of said Estate as will be sufficient to reimburse the sums he has been at and pay the Creditors of said Estate, which in the whole amounts to the Sum of £254.17.8 or that your Honors would take such other measures for his & their Relief as in your Honors Wisdom shall be Judged expedient

And as in Duty bound will pray

Tho: Child

Falmouth 22^d Jan^r 1783 —

Cumberland Ss Jan^r 22 1783

These certify that the List of Claims upon the Estate of Francis Waldo Esq an Absentee, together with the Ballance of the Agents Account as allowed by the Hon^{ble} William Gorham Esq^r Judge of Probate for said County, amount to the Sum of Two hundred & fifty four Pounds seventeen shillings & eight pence as set forth in the foregoing Petition

Att Sam^l Freeman Reg. Prob.

Memorial Selectmen Town of York.

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and House of Representatives in
General Court Assembled Humbly Shew

The Subscribers Selectmen of the Town of York— That agreeable to the Resolve of June 30th 1781 great Pains was taken by the Town to Comply therewith But the failure of the Paper Currency, and the great exertions the Town made to procure their Quota of the Continental Army for three Years renders them unable to Comply with the Requisition —

The Memorialist would observe that they have procured and now have in the Army their Quota that has been assigned, that they have done from Time to time every thing for the Support of the Warr, that they could, in procuring Clothing, Beef &c —

That by the loss of all their Vessells by the Enemy at an early period of the War — they are much reduced in their circumstances That the Soil they Inhabit is poor and Barren — and they really apprehend such a time of Scarcity before the Month of April next as they never Saw before, probably one half the Inhabitants without Bread — That under this Situation they humbly hope the General Court will not assess the Fine of £20 a man on the said Town for not raising the Three Months men in the said Resolution mentioned, for that in your memorialists opinion all the money in the Town will not be adequate to discharge one Quarter part of the Continental Taxes already ordered for 1782

Joseph Simpson	} Selectmen of	
John Kingsbury		the town
Nicholas Sewall		of York.

York Jan^y 24th 1783

Wm Lithgow to Governor.

Sir / May it Please Your Excelency

Cap^t John Neptune the bearer hereof has Importun'd me to Inform you of the poverty of the Penobscot Indians as to their wants of the following articles.— Viz^t powder, balls, Shot, guns, flints, knives, Hatchets, kettles, Thread, Needles, Wormers to Draw guns, steels to strike fire, Tobacco, — the above articles to be placed with Colonal Pattee, for him to sell to the Indians up kennebeck River, in behalfe of the state,— the Indians he sayes are averse to Colonel Brewer,

being Truck master aney longer by Reason as this Indian sayes Brewer Cheats the Indians. —

if I may be alowed to Speak my sentiments on the matter, I think it may do well to send the above articles in a Scanty manner to see if they Can purchis the whole or part of them by which the State Can Judge whether to send aney more or not, — the above Indian earnestly solicites that the general Court would please to bestow som necessaryes for him selfe his Father and famiely, in Consideration of his being a Stanch Friend to the Cause of the united States of America, — I hope your Excelency will excuse me for trubling you with this Letter as it is Wrote at the Ernest Request of y^e Indian —

I Remain your Excelencyes humble Serv^t

William Lithgow

Jan 25, 1783.

Petition Elizabeth Wildridge.

To the Honorable Senate and the Honorable House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled —

The Petition of Elizabeth Wildridge of Falmouth in the County of Cumberland in said Commonwealth — Widow of James Wildridge late of said Falmouth mariner. Deceased. humbly shews

That at the last Court of Common Pleas for the County aforesaid which was begun & holden at Falmouth in said County on the last Tuesday of October last. A small Lot of Land about twenty square Rods with a Dwelling House thereon, belonging to the said Deceased, was declared forfeited to the Use of the Commonwealth aforesaid — as your Petitioner has since been informed — She apprehends the confiscation

of said House and Land is grounded upon some misinformation made to the authority of this Commonwealth — & therefore ought not in justice to take effect — That your Petitioners Husband did not withdraw from this Government to join the Enemy. and that he did not voluntarily put himself under their protection or in manner aid and assist them against the United States or any of them she humbly thinks she can make your Honors fully satisfied —

In May A. D. 1777 he sailed from this Place in a Sloop commanded by Capt Thomas Ross, laden with Lumber and bound to the West Indies — Upon their Passage thither they were taken by the Enemy who orderd the Sloop to Hallifax and carried your Petitioners Husband a Prisoner to New York — After he had been a few Weeks in Captivity, he died, and left your Petitioner with seven young Children to support — From what cause it was that he was considered as an Absentee — your Petitioner is not able to determine — But whatever it might be she is conscious that no Act of the Deceased could ever justly incur the forfeiture of his Estate, and thereby involve his Family in deep Distress

Some False Report, or some unhappy mistake must have produced the Charge which placed him in the List of the proscribed — but your Petitioner humbly hopes that although he is numbered with them. your Honors will not suffer such an Error to be confirmed — but in the exercise of Justice — order the proceedings against the said Estate to be annulled —

Your Petitioner did not know this matter was pending in the Court abovementioned & if she had she does not suppose she could there obtain relief — She considers this Honorable Court the only power to which she can appeal, and without moving your Honors tender feelings toward a Widow with a numerous family under her care — she relies on the Equity of her Case & therefore humbly prays that the small Estate aforesaid may be restored to her and their Use — whereby

their place of habitation will be continued to them—and themselves saved from that distress which must otherwise attend them—

And as in duty bound will ever pray

Elizabeth Willdrage

Falmouth 27, 1783.

This may Certify that I believe the facts set forth in the petition are Strictly true and that if the Estate referd to in the Petition is taken from the Petitioner she with her Children will become a Charge to the Town or Publick

Joseph Noyes

one of the Selectmen of the Town of Falmouth

Certificate in Favor Adam Babcock.

This Certifies

That the Sum of Eighty three pounds, four shillings in Specie, became due to Adam Babcock Esq the first Instant, for Interest omitted on former Certificate 4th June 1782 on his One sixteenth part of the Arm'd Ship General Putnam, lost on the Penobscot Expedition, which when paid will be in full for the same

Thomas Ivers, Peter Roe Dalton	} Com ^{rs} for Auditing the a/c ^{ts} of the late Board of War.

His Excellency the Governor & the Hon^{ble} the Council of the
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Boston July 18, 1782

In Council January 28th 1783

R^d & Advised That a W^t be drawn on the Treas^r in full
of the above Certificate

John Avery Sec^r

Resolve in Favor James Hunter.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives 28th 1783

on the representation of James Hunter setting forth that he Served Two months & 21 days in the capacity of Major of the Reg^t of Militia under the Command of Col^o Sam^l M^cCobb, in the Expedition against the British Garrison at Penobscut in the year 1779 and that his pay (which is now due to him) for s^d Service & Nations amounting to one Hundred & Sixty six pounds 9/ at the rate at which money then passed on being Liquidated by the Scale of depreciation amounteth to but £9 .. 6 4, being a sum much less than he would be intituled unto by the Continental Establishment in specie

Resolved that there be allowed & paid out of the publick Treasury of this Com Wealth the sum of Forty Eight pounds unto James Hunter in full for his Services & Rations as Major of a Regiment on the Expedition against Penobscut in the year 1779 any resolve to the Contrary notwithstanding.

Memorial Caleb Davis and Action Thereon.

Boston January 30 — 1783

The Hon^{ble} Senate & the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives

Caleb Davis (late Agent for the Common Wealth) begs leave to represent to Your Honors, that his Agency expired the 1st Ins^t & that he is very desirous to have his Accounts closed as soon as possible; but no person being authorized to receive from him the Articles he has on hand belonging to the Common Wealth, prevents his laying his Accounts before Your Honors for examination & final adjustment—he therefore prays Your Honors direction what disposition he shall make of said Articles & as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Caleb Davis

Common Wealth Massachusetts

In Senate Jan^y 31 1783

On the Representation of the Hon^{ble} Caleb Davis Esq^r late Agent of the Common Wealth praying for direction Respecting the Stores in his possession belonging to this Common Wealth—

Resolved that Richard Devens Esq^r Commissary General be & he is hereby Authorized and directed to Receive from the said Caleb Davis Esq^r all such Stores as he has on hand belonging to this Common Wealth and give the said Davis Duplicate Receipts Therefor One of which to be returnd to the Committee for stating and methodizing Accounts for their Use and by them to be lodged in the Secretaries office

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^tIn the House of Representatives Jan^y 31st 1783

Read & concurred

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Approv'd John Hancock

Representation of Inhab^{ts} of Falmouth.

To the Honorable Senate and the Honorable House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts—in General Court assembled

The Subscribers in the name & behalf of a Convention of Selectmen & Committees from most of the Principal Towns in the County of Cumberland in said Commonwealth beg leave to represent

That from undoubted Intelligence lately received from Bagdaduce We understand the Enemy there are strongly re-inforced—They have not only an accession of Strength by the arrival of Regular Forces, but with a view no doubt to

assist them in their depredatory Operations and enlarge the extent of their possessions in that quarter, Numbers of Refugees from New York have joined them—We further learn that they are now building a large Block-house for transportation & are also making such other military Preparations as gives us the greatest reason to believe that they are meditating a Design of advancing into this County & we know not but Falmouth may be their Object Whatever their intentions may be—Prudence dictates that we be upon our Guard & in readiness to oppose them wherever their Views may be directed

At present we are in a Defenceless State—and although it might otherwise be thought incautious to declare it is a Truth too well known to the Enemy that we are so—The County of Lincoln are also so defenceless & exposed that we cannot forbear saying we fear they will be soon too much discouraged to attempt making any further Resistance—

Your Honors will not therefore judge it inexpedient or improper that in regard to the safety of the whole Eastern County and in behalf of this County in particular, we apply to your Honors for Relief—for it is from your Honors only we can expect it—And as through the Smiles of Divine Providence the Southern States are freed from their late merciless oppressors we cannot but hope that a part of the Continental Forces may be spared to defend this northern State to which the attention of the Enemy now seems to be directed.

And considering of what importance these two lower Counties may be to the United States & would be to the Enemy were they to be lost we apprehend your Honors will not think our conjectures are ill grounded.

We therefore pray that your Honors would take our situation into your wise consideration & determine on such measures for our Protection as your Honors shall judge best

And as the Militia of this Brigade have found it impossible to procure A supply of Arms & Ammunition we beg leave to propose that your Honors would order a quantity from the Public Stores to be sent to some Person or Persons in Falmouth to be sold out to such as are destitute at such Rates as your Honors shall judge reasonable —

We would further observe to your Honors, that a very great part of our Vessels have been captured by the Enemy & it is probable the remainder of them will be lost the ensuing Spring or Summer — unless some Naval vessel is sent to cruise upon our Coasts — We therefore humbly pray that your Honors would take this matter likewise into your consideration & order such Provision to be made to secure our Coasting Vessels & protect our Coasts as your Honors shall judge adequate to the danger to which they will be exposed

Edw ^d Phinney	}	Committee
Isaac Parsons		
Benj Titcomb		
Joshua Fabyan		
Samuel Whitmore		

Falmouth Feb^r 3, 1783

Action on Foregoing.

In the House of Representatives March 17th 1783 —

Ordered that Gen^l Ward, M^r Dwight & Col^o Thacher with such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to consider the foregoing representation, ^A & also what measures are proper to be taken to discharge Col^o Mason Wheaton from his receipts to the Board of War for public Stores delivered him agreeable to the Resolve of Nov^r 19, 1779. ^B & report

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

In Senate March 17th 1783

Read & Concurred with Amendments at A and Jedediah
Preble & Jon^a Warner Esq^r are joined
at A dele from A to B

Sent down for Concurrence S Adams Presid^t
In the House of Representatives March 18th 1783
Read and concurred Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Resolve on Petition Thomas Childs.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate Feb^r 4, 1783

On the Petition of Thomas Childs, Agent on the Estate of Francis Waldo late of Falmouth in the County of Cumberland Esq, an Absentee, in behalf of himself & others, Creditors of said Estate, praying that the Committee for Selling Absentees Estates in said County may be impowered to sell so much of said Absentees Estate as shall be sufficient to pay the Demands upon the same —

Resolved, that the Prayer of said Petition be so far granted as that said Committee be & they are hereby impowered to Cause such Parts or Parcels of said Waldo's Real Estate as they shall judge most advantageous to the Commonwealth to be appraised by three good & sufficient Freeholders on Oath as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Demands & said Committee are hereby impowered to give & Execute a good & sufficient Deed or Deeds of the same any Law or Resolve to the contrary Notwithstanding

Sent down for Concurrence

S. Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Feb^r 6th 1783

Read and concurred Tristram Dalton Spk^r
Approv'd John Hancock.

Petition Selectmen of Harpswell.

To the Honourable Senate and Hon^{bl} House of Representatives at Boston in General Court assembled

We Your Humble Petitioners Humbly Sheweth

That whereas there was three men Requir^d of us of the Last Demands for men for the Continantal Service and we according to the Resolve of Court Divided the Inhabittance into Clases for getting said men but Cou^d by no means that we Cou^d Use Get but one with all the offers we Cou^d make Neither Cou^d we find any that wou^d say they wou^d Ingage for any sum as we Remember and we Always have been and [still] are Ready and willing to Obey all Requests from the Legislative Authority that Lays in our Power; But as we were too High in the Valluation which Increas^d our Number of men in the former Demands for men for the Continantal Services and by Reason of too High Valluation our Taxes has been Too High Since the Valluation was Taken — Therefore we Pray Your Honours to take these things into Consideration and Relinquish our fines for the Deficiency of the Two men above mentioned on account of what we have Over Paid in the former Taxes which were too Great by Reason of Too High Valluation and we advise Your Honours of the Difficulty of our Situation which Exceeds that of any Place we know off where they Pretend to make any Resistance which is such that we have Muster^d on the Lords day and every man Oblig^d to Run for his Arms; and have at some Times been Call^d out of our Beds, but being in Expectation of these things we have been Muster^d some times through mistakes; and some time in July Last our fishing Boats were Chas^d into the Harbour by one Liniken who was Drove of by the Melitia who were Muster^d with utmost Haste and Persu^d with all Resolution y^e s^d Linniken in a fishing Schooner Retook one of their Prizes & still Pursu^d with her till they over-

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Benj^a Duning }
John Rodick } Selectmen

Harpſwell Febr^a y^e 5th 1783

Petition Sarah Nason, and Action Thereon.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the house of Representatives Feb^r 5th 1783

on the Petition of Sarah Nason praying to be impowered to Exchange about twenty five acres of land of the Estate of her late Husband Shubal Nason late of York in the County of York Dec^d, intestate, for about thirty acres of land in the same town owned by Joshua Bridges & Jasper grant, and it appearing to this Court that to make such Exchange may be beneficial to said Dec^d Estate—

Resolved that the said Sarah Nason be and she hereby is fully impowered to make such Exchange and to make and Execute good and lawfull Deed or Deeds, of the aforesaid twenty five acres of land to the purchaser or purchasers thereof, Provided She Procure a good and lawfull Deed well Executed of the afore said thirty acres of land to run to the Heirs

at law of the said Deed in such Proportion as they would
have been intitled to had not the same been Exchanged

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk'

In Senate March 12th 1783

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid'

Approv'd

John Hancock

Petition Joseph M^cLellan.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts To the Hon^{ble} the Senate
& the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives of said Commonwealth in General Court assembled

The Petition of Joseph McLellan of Falmouth in the
County of Cumberland — humbly sheweth —

That your Petitioner was appointed to a Lieutenancy, & served in that capacity under Brigadier General Wadsworth at the eastward in 1780: that during the General's command there, Charles Cushing Esq^r Brigadier of the County of Lincoln was taken out of his bed, from the tender partner of his bosom, in the Silent hour of the Night, by a party of Refugees & carried prisoner to Bagwaduice, where he remained several Weeks, & at the same time many others who discovered a friendly attachment to the cause of their Country, were threatned by the Tories with a similar fate—this alarmed the fears & apprehensions of the virtuous & well disposed Inhabitants, & every one became anxious for the security of himself his family & property—in this situation of danger and distress, the General received well attested information that Francis Rittal, Thomas Town & others, inhabitants of Kennebec River, had been guilty of treasonable & inimical

Practices against the United States, & Town was strongly suspected of being privy to & connected in the Capture of Brigadier Cushing; in consequence of this Information the General, from an apprehension that the limits prescribed for the operation of the Martial Law, then established in part of the County of Lincoln, included the residence of said Persons, issued an Order dated the 25th of September 1780 for the apprehending said Rittal, Town & others, & directed the same to your Petitioner, by virtue of which he took said Rittal & Town who were soon after committed to Falmouth Goal by the General's particular order—here they continued some time & were then liberated on their giving security for their future good behaviour; & thus matters rested untill the 26th of August last, when the said Rittal, too sensible of a growing disaffection among many of the Inhabitants of said County, occasioned by an uninterrupted intercourse with the British Garrison at Bagwaduce, & hoping to avail himself of that circumstance in order to wreak his vengeance against your Petitioner by a tryal at Law, brought his action of assault, battery & false imprisonment against him, at the Court of Common Pleas held within & for said County of Lincoln last September, which action is now depending & stands continued to next June Term—your Petitioner is therefore compelled though reluctantly to address the Justice & benevolence of this Honourable Court to prevent the ruinous consequences that must result to himself & family by a prosecution of said Action, & others which will shortly be commenced against him, & for which, he is well assured Rittal's action is intended to pave the way, & he is the rather encouraged to hope for the favourable interposition of the Honourable Court in this instance, as his conduct throughout the whole transaction was influenced by the purest principles of duty to his Country & obedience to the Command of his General, & as he can at once produce the most ample attestations of the inimical prin-

ciples & practice of said Persons & of the extensive beneficial consequences that evidently resulted to the public from their apprehension & committment & your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray

Joseph Mclellan

Feb^r 6th 1783

Resolve to Tax County of Cumberland.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Feb^r 7th 1783

on the Representation of the Justices of the Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the County of Cumberland that the sum of three Hundred and Sixty pounds will be necessary for Defraying the Charges of said County for one year next Ensuing

Resolved that there be and hereby is granted a tax of three hundred and Sixty pounds to be apportioned and assessed on the Rateable Polls and Estates in said County and the Same be Colected and paid into the treasury thereof and applied for the use of said County agreeable to the Laws of this Commonwealth

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

In Senate Feb^r 7th 1783 —

Read & Concurred with Amendment at A

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

at A insert, "by the Clerk of the peace for the County of Cumberland upon the several Towns within the same."

In the House of Representatives February 7th 1783

Read and concurred

Tristram Dalton Speaker.

Approv'd

John Hancock.

At a Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the County of Cumberland begun and holden at Falmouth in said County on the last Tuesday of October A. D. 1782

Ordered that the Clerk transmit to the General Court the following

Estimate of the Sums necessary to be raised to defrey the Charges of said County the year ensuing — viz —

For paying the Charges that may attend the holding said Court the present Term £80. Ditto next May Term £130. Ditto next October Term £80 Ditto for the Supream Judicial Court next June £30 For repairing the Goal £20 For laying out Roads £20 amounting in the whole to £360 —

Att Sam Freeman Cler.

Allowance to Collectors of Excise.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate Feb^r 6th 1783

Ordered that Aaron Wood & Caleb Davis Esq^{rs} with such as the Hon^{ble} House may be a Committee to take into consideration and report the proper Allowance to be made to the Collectors of Excise in this Commonwealth

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Feb^r 7th 1783

Read and concurred and Cap^t Wales M^r Frazier & D^r Hall are joined

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Message of Governor.

Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of the House of Representatives

I have this moment receiv'd a Letter from Col^o Lithgow by two Indians of the Penobscot Tribe, these Indians are

come to make application for Sundry Articles for the use of the Tribe. The Letter with a Commission given one of these Indians by Brig Gen^l Lovell, I have directed the Secretary to lay before you — I have given Orders that these Indians should be taken Care of this Night & have become responsible for their Expences — I cannot but recommend these Papers & the Case of these Indians to your Consideration, & your Determination Shall be communicated to them immediately upon my receiving it,

John Hancock

Council Chamber Boston 7th Feb^r 1783

In Senate February 7th 1783

Read and thereupon Orderd that Jedidiah Preble Esq^r with such as the Hon^{ble} House shall join be a Committee to take this Message together with the papers accompanying the same into Consideration and make report what may be proper to be done thereon

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives February 8th 1783

Read and concurred and Col^o M^cCobb & Col^o Grow are joined

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Petition Inhab^{ts} Town of Arundel.

To the honorable Senate; and the honorable House of Representatives in General Court assembled.

May it please your Honors.

We your Petitioners Inhabitants of the Town of Arundel beg Leave to represent our Situation to you and intreat your Attention to it. The Calamities of War have spread Difficulties and Scattered various Distresses thro' the County in

general, but more especially in several Towns in the eastern part of it situated on the Sea Coast which have been deprived of the Profits of Navigation for several Years past in a very considerable Degree. The Scarcity of Provisions by the Obstruction of Navigation and the Loss of our Vessells on one Side and the Severity of the Drought last Summer on the other have made it so extremely difficult to procure them by any Means that many of our Poor People have been reduced to very grievous Straits, and have suffered very much for the Want of them, not having wherewith to pay their Proportion of the public Taxes and provide the Necessaries of Life for their Families.

The very considerable Numbers of Men at various Times gone from us into various Parts of the World some of which have perished at Sea, others in the public Service on the Land have died and left Families in the Depth of Wretchedness in continual Want of the Necessaries of Life and unable to procure any of them; many more have been and are yet in Captivity; besides those who are already in the continental Army, by which Means our Men who are able to go into the Army are reduced to a very small Number scarcely sufficient for our own defence from the Ravages of the Enemy to which we have been and are continually exposed; so that it is extremely Difficult to procure Men among us at any Rate; and impossible without hiring them at a very extravagant Price.

These are some of the many Difficulties and Distresses the Inhabitants of this County and we in this Town in particular have labored under for some time past, and are yet heavy upon us. And for these Reasons we have been deficient in procuring our Quota of the three Months Men for the Service of the Army, and not for Want of a zealous Attachment to the Interests of our Country.

Wherefore we the Selectmen of the Town of Arundel in behalf of said Town do humbly and earnestly intreat the

Petition Selectmen of Harpswell.

To the Honourable Senate and Hon^{bl} House of Representatives at Boston in General Court assembled

We Your Humble Petitioners Humbly Sheweth

That whereas there was three men Requir^d of us of the Last Demands for men for the Continantal Service and we according to the Resolve of Court Divided the Inhabitance into Clases for getting said men but Cou^d by no means that we Cou^d Use Get but one with all the offers we Cou^d make Neither Cou^d we find any that wou^d say they wou^d Ingage for any sum as we Remember and we Always have been and [still] are Ready and willing to Obey all Requests from the Legislative Authority that Lays in our Power; But as we were too High in the Valluation which Increas^d our Number of men in the former Demands for men for the Continantal Services and by Reason of too High Valluation our Taxes has been Too High Since the Valluation was Taken — Therefore we Pray Your Honours to take these things into Consideration and Relinquish our fines for the Deficiency of the Two men above mentioned on account of what we have Over Paid in the former Taxes which were too Great by Reason of Too High Valluation and we advise Your Honours of the Difficulty of our Situation which Exceeds that of any Place we know off where they Pretend to make any Resistance which is such that we have Muster^d on the Lords day and every man Oblig^d to Run for his Arms; and have at some Times been Call^d out of our Beds, but being in Expectation of these things we have been Muster^d some times through mistakes; and some time in July Last our fishing Boats were Chas^d into the Harbour by one Liniken who was Drove of by the Melitia who were Muster^d with utmost Haste and Persu^d with all Resolution y^e s^d Linniken in a fishing Schooner Retook one of their Prizes & still Pursu^d with her till they over-

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Benj^a Duning }
John Rodick } Selectmen

Harpſwell Februa^y 5th 1783

Petition Sarah Nason, and Action Thereon.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the house of Representatives Feb^{ry} 5th 1783

on the Petition of Sarah Nason praying to be impowered to Exchange about twenty five acres of land of the Estate of her late Husband Shubal Nason late of York in the County of York Dec^d, intestate, for about thirty acres of land in the same town owned by Joshua Bridges & Jasper grant, and it appearing to this Court that to make such Exchange may be beneficial to said Dec^d Estate—

Resolved that the said Sarah Nason be and she hereby is fully impowered to make such Exchange and to make and Execute good and lawfull Deed or Deeds, of the aforesaid twenty five acres of land to the purchaser or purchasers thereof, Provided She Procure a good and lawfull Deed well Executed of the afore said thirty acres of land to run to the Heirs

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Resolve directing the Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court to proceed to regulate the Principal & Interest on Depreciation Rates from the returns made in the Secretaries Office

returns made

Lieut Aaron Skinner —

Resolve Relating to Indians.

Common Welth of Massachusetts

in Senate February 13 1783

the Committee of both Houses appointed to consider the governors message of the 7 February instant have attended that service & ask Leave to Report the following Resolve

Jedidiah Preble p^r order

Whereas there are now in this Town two Indians of the Penobscot Tribe, Capt Neptune & a young Indian Lad and whereas the situation of our Publick affairs in the Eastern parts of this Common welth makes it necessary to keep up a Friendly intercourse with Said Tribe

Therefore Resolved that the Commissary general be and he hereby is directed forth with to procure one uniform Coat, Two Hats, two Shirts, two Pare of Indian Stockins one Blanket & two pare of Shoes & two pares of Breeches & deliver the Same to Said Indians & Charge the Same to this Common welth

Read & Accepted

Sent down for Concurrence S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Feb^r 14th 1783

Read and concurred Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Approv'd John Hancock

^A Two Hundred Powder one Hundred & Fifty of Balls

^B three Hundred Shot Two Hundred Flints Knives Sixty

Hatchets fifty Tin Kittles Twenty Thred Twenty Large
Needles one Thousand wormers sixty Steels to strike Fire
sixty one Hundredth of Tobacco Ten small Arms
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Resolves in re Abatement and Assessments of Taxes.

In the House of Representatives Feb^r 13th 1783.

Resolved that the selectmen & assessors of the several Towns & districts within this Commonwealth, shall meet together at some place within their respective Towns or districts, on the day of next, of which meeting they shall give previous notice seven days at least before the said time of meeting, by posting the same up in two or more public places, within their respective towns or districts, at which meeting they shall abate and discharge one fifteenth part of the quota, of their said towns or districts of the second moiety of the continental Tax, granted in the last session of the general court, & that the said abatement shall be credited and allowed on the taxes of those persons who in the Judgment of said selectmen & assessors, would be most distressed by the Collection thereof. And the said Selectmen shall forthwith make out fair & legible duplicate lists of the names of the persons whose Taxes they may abate as aforesaid & the sums to be to them respectively credited in the said Tax, one whereof they shall deliver to the constable or Collector in whose hands the assignments of the said Tax are & the other to the town Clerk where any such officer is, and where there is not, shall be retained in the hands of the said selectmen or assessors,—

And it is further resolved that the Treasurer of this Commonwealth be & he hereby is directed to credit to the several Towns, who now stand charged their respective Quota, of

ciples & practice of said Persons & of the extensive beneficial consequences that evidently resulted to the public from their apprehension & committment & your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray

Joseph Mclellan

Feb^y 6th 1783

Resolve to Tax County of Cumberland.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Feb^r 7th 1783

on the Representation of the Justices of the Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the County of Cumberland that the sum of three Hundred and Sixty pounds will be necessary for Defraying the Charges of said County for one year next Ensuing

Resolved that there be and hereby is granted a tax of three hundred and Sixty pounds to be apportioned and assessed on the Rateable Polls and Estates in said County and the Same be Colected and paid into the treasury thereof and applied for the use of said County agreeable to the Laws of this Commonwealth

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

In Senate Feb^y 7th 1783 —

Read & Concurred with Amendment at A

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

at A insert, "by the Clerk of the peace for the County of Cumberland upon the several Towns within the same."

In the House of Representatives February 7th 1783

Read and concurred

Tristram Dalton Speaker.

Approv'd

John Hancock.

At a Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the County of Cumberland begun and holden at Falmouth in said County on the last Tuesday of October A. D. 1782

Ordered that the Clerk transmit to the General Court the following

Estimate of the Sums necessary to be raised to defrey the Charges of said County the year ensuing — viz —

For paying the Charges that may attend the holding said Court the present Term £80. Ditto next May Term £130. Ditto next October Term £80 Ditto for the Supream Judicial Court next June £30 For repairing the Goal £20 For laying out Roads £20 amounting in the whole to £360 —

Att Sam Freeman Cler.

Allowance to Collectors of Excise.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate Feb^r 6th 1783

Ordered that Aaron Wood & Caleb Davis Esq^{rs} with such as the Hon^{ble} House may be a Committee to take into consideration and report the proper Allowance to be made to the Collectors of Excise in this Commonwealth

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Message of Governor.

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I have this moment receiv'd a Letter from Col^o Lithgow by two Indians of the Penobscot Tribe, these Indians are

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Tristram Dalton Speaker.

Approv'd

John Hancock.

At a Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the County of Cumberland begun and holden at Falmouth in said County on the last Tuesday of October A. D. 1782

Ordered that the Clerk transmit to the General Court the following

Estimate of the Sums necessary to be raised to defrey the Charges of said County the year ensuing — viz —

For paying the Charges that may attend the holding said Court the present Term £80. Ditto next May Term £130. Ditto next October Term £80 Ditto for the Supream Judicial Court next June £30 For repairing the Goal £20 For laying out Roads £20 amounting in the whole to £360 —

Att Sam Freeman Cler.

Allowance to Collectors of Excise.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate Feb^r 6th 1783

Ordered that Aaron Wood & Caleb Davis Esq^{rs} with such as the Hon^{ble} House may be a Committee to take into consideration and report the proper Allowance to be made to the Collectors of Excise in this Commonwealth

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Feb^r 7th 1783

Read and concurred and Cap^t Wales M^r Frazier & D^r Hall are joined

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Message of Governor.

Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of the House of Representatives

I have this moment receiv'd a Letter from Col^o Lithgow by two Indians of the Penobscot Tribe, these Indians are

come to make application for Sundry Articles for the use of the Tribe. The Letter with a Commission given one of these Indians by Brig Gen^l Lovell, I have directed the Secretary to lay before you — I have given Orders that these Indians should be taken Care of this Night & have become responsible for their Expences — I cannot but recommend these Papers & the Case of these Indians to your Consideration, & your Determination Shall be communicated to them immediately upon my receiving it,

John Hancock

Council Chamber Boston 7th Feb^r 1783

In Senate February 7th 1783

Read and thereupon Orderd that Jedidiah Preble Esq^r with such as the Hon^{ble} House shall join be a Committee to take this Message together with the papers accompanying the same into Consideration and make report what may be proper to be done thereon

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives February 8th 1783

Read and concurred and Col^o M^cCobb & Col^o Grow are joined

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Petition Inhab^{ts} Town of Arundel.

To the honorable Senate; and the honorable House of Representatives in General Court assembled.

May it please your Honors.

We your Petitioners Inhabitants of the Town of Arundel beg Leave to represent our Situation to you and intreat your Attention to it. The Calamities of War have spread Difficulties and Scattered various Distresses thro' the County in

general, but more especially in several Towns in the eastern part of it situated on the Sea Coast which have been deprived of the Profits of Navigation for several Years past in a very considerable Degree. The Scarcity of Provisions by the Obstruction of Navigation and the Loss of our Vessells on one Side and the Severity of the Drought last Summer on the other have made it so extremely difficult to procure them by any Means that many of our Poor People have been reduced to very grievous Straits, and have suffered very much for the Want of them, not having wherewith to pay their Proportion of the public Taxes and provide the Necessaries of Life for their Families.

The very considerable Numbers of Men at various Times gone from us into various Parts of the World some of which have perished at Sea, others in the public Service on the Land have died and left Families in the Depth of Wretchedness in continual Want of the Necessaries of Life and unable to procure any of them; many more have been and are yet in Captivity; besides those who are already in the continental Army, by which Means our Men who are able to go into the Army are reduced to a very small Number scarcely sufficient for our own defence from the Ravages of the Enemy to which we have been and are continually exposed; so that it is extremely Difficult to procure Men among us at any Rate; and impossible without hiring them at a very extravagant Price.

These are some of the many Difficulties and Distresses the Inhabitants of this County and we in this Town in particular have labored under for some time past, and are yet heavy upon us. And for these Reasons we have been deficient in procuring our Quota of the three Months Men for the Service of the Army, and not for Want of a zealous Attachment to the Interests of our Country.

Wherefore we the Selectmen of the Town of Arundel in behalf of said Town do humbly and earnestly intreat the

General Assembly to take our Situation with the grievous Burdens and Distresses we labor under into Consideration, and lay not upon us the Penalty we are liable to by not sending our Proportion of the three months Men when it has not been in our Power to raise them by hiring or any other Way, while sinking under so many grievous Burdens.

That the General Assembly may be directed into the most wise and Salutary Measures is the earnest Wish of your Petitioners.

Benj ^a Dunill	}	Select Men
Thomas Wiswall		
William Smith		

Arundel Feb^r 8th 1783

Memorial Simeon Mayo.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To the honorable the Senate & the honorable the House of
Representatives in General Court assembled at Boston
Feb^r 1783 —

Simeon Mayo most respectfully sheweth

That in the Year 1774 being indebted on Bond to Francis Waldo late of Falmouth in the County of Cumberland, now an Absentee, in the Sum of One thousand Pounds L. M. as a collateral Security for the Payment of that Sum, he by Deed, mortgaged to said Waldo half an Acre of Land with a dwelling House, two Stores & a large Distill House thereon, of the Value of twenty five hundred Pounds, That said Waldo on with drawing himself within the Enemies Lines carried with him said Bond & Mortgage, which still remain with him undischarged & uncanceled: That in the Year 1775 in the Conflagration of that unfortunate Town, all the Buildings without Exception mortgaged as aforesaid were totally destroyed, &

sessors chosen at a Meeting of the Inhabitants of said Town held on the 25th March the same year—That the Owners of several of said Lots neglected to pay the said Tax—and thereupon so much of their s^d Lands were sold as was sufficient to pay the same—

That the purchasers received Deed of the said Assessors & some of them have improved and disposed of the Lands they so purchased—

That the legality of the said March Meeting hath lately been called in question on pretence that some of the Inhabitants were not Voters—That although some Disputes arose when the said Assessors were chosen, it was determined by the Moderator of s^d Meeting that they were fairly chosen—and a Record was made at the Time thereof—That much confusion would arise in said Town—and great Injury accrue to the Purchasers of Said Lands if the assessments & Sales aforesaid should be judged illegal—

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray your Honors to pass some Act whereby the Record aforesaid should be established, and adjudged in Law sufficient evidence of the legality of the Choice of Assessors as aforesaid, notwithstanding any disputes that may arise with respect to the qualifications of Voters at said March Meeting

And your Petitioners as in duty bound will pray

Edward Anderson	}	Selectmen of Windham
David Bowker		

Windham Sep^r 12 1782

David Sewall to Tristram Dalton Esq.

Boston Feb^r 28 1783

Sir,

On Casting my Eye over Willis Cronicle Yesterday I found an Advertisement Respecting the Unimproved Lands

that the justices of the court of Common pleas within and for the County of Cumberland be and they hereby are empowered and directed to take off the default mentioned in the said petition, and that such trial of the said libel upon the merits thereof may be had before the same court at any future Term of its setting as if the same had been regularly continued from the last term of the said courts setting to the next and the default aforementioned had never happened —

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

In Senate February 12th 1783

Read & Nonconcurr'd,

S Adams Presid^t

In Senate March 5th 1783

Reconsidered & Concurred

S. Adams Presid^t

Approv'd

John Hancock

Resolve on Petition Timothy Hodgdon.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives February 10th 1783

On the Petition of Timothy Hodgdon, setting forth, "That in the year 1774 he did bargain with John Sparhawk Esq^r Agent to Sir William Pepperrell for 21 2/3 Acres of Land lying in Arundel in the County of York and paid for the same, but never had a Deed of it, and that it is now out of his power to obtain one — therefore —

Resolved that the Committee on the Sale of confiscated Estates for the said County of York (or any one of them) be, and they are hereby impowered and directed, in behalf of this Commonwealth to make and execute a Deed of Release to the

said Timothy Hodgdon of the beforementioned twenty one Acres and two thirds of an Acre of Land

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

In Senate Feb^r 1783

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd John Hancock

Wells Oct^r 10th 1789

These may Certify whom it doth concern, that in the year 1774 I the Subscriber having full power from Sir William Pepperrell then of Roxbury in this Commonwealth (but now an Absentee) did bargain with & Sell to M^r Timothy Hodgdon of Arundel 21 2 3 Acres of Land or thereabouts lyng in said Arundel at 12/ p^r Acre for a considerable part of which said Hodgdon actually paid in his labor before the present War began. Witness my hand

John Sparhawk

Mr Hodgdon's Acco^t of Labour which he says he is ready to make Oath to Amounts to Law^l Money £11 .. 8 .. Also paid Abiel Mirrell the Rates for the place in 1707 £2 .. 12 Total £14 : 0

John Sparhawk

Order Relating to Collectors of Excise.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate Feb^r 11th 1783

Whereas this Court have made Choice of Samuel Henshaw Esq^r to be Collector of Excise for the County of Suffolk Samuel Ward Esq^r for the County of Essex, Elijah Hunt Esq^r for the County of Hampshire, William Drew Esq^r for

the County of Plimouth, Joseph Nye Esq^r for the County of Barnstable, Samuel Fales Esq^r for the County of Bristol, Jonathan Chesley Chadbourn Esq^r for the County of York, M^r Caleb Ammidown for the County of Worcester, Joseph North Esq^r for the County of Lincoln, Cap^t William Bacon for the County of Berkshire—

Ordered, that the Secretary be and he hereby is directed forthwith to notify the aforementioned Gentlemen of their Elections, and request their Answers respectively

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives February 11th 1783.

Read and concurred

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve in re Allowance of Collectors.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The committee of Both Houses appointed to take into Consideration the proper allowance to be made to the Collectors of Excise in this Commonwealth have considered that Matter: and report the Following Resolve—

Aaron Wood p^r Order

Resolved, that the following allowance be made to the Several Collectors of Excise for the present year which shall be in full for their Respective Services and Necessary assistance. Viz— To the Collectors for the Counties of Suffolk & Essex Two p^r cent on the sums they shall respectively Collect.

To the Collector for the County of Middlesex three p cent. on the sum he shall Collect

To the Collectors for the Counties of York Cumberland
Lincoln & Berkshier, Five p^r Cent and to the Collectors of the
other counties in this Commonwealth Four p^r Cent

In Senate Feb^r 10th 1782

Read & accepted

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Feb^r 11th 1783

Read and concurred with amendment at A

Viz at A insert "Nantucket Dukes Conty

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

In Senate Feb^r 11th, 1783

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd John Hancock.

John Sewall Jr. to Governor.

York Feb^r 11th 1783

Your Excellency

Having been pleased with the advice of Council in the
year 1781 to nominate and appoint me Register of Probate
for the County of York—I would beg leave to observe, that,
the fees and perquisites thereof are too inconsiderable to
enable me to give that attention to it that such an office re-
quires—As I am meditating a remove to a distant part of
the County, where it will be inconvenient to have the office
kept; I ask leave to resign; and, that your Excellency would
be pleased to nominate some other person to that office in my
stead.

I am respectfully your Excellency's most obedient humble
servant

Jn^o Sewall jun^r

Daniel Sewall of York

Resolve directing the Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court to proceed to regulate the Principal & Interest on Depreciation Rates from the returns made in the Secretaries Office
returns made

Lieut Aaron Skinner —

Resolve Relating to Indians.

Common Welth of Massachusetts

in Senate February 13 1783

the Committee of both Houses appointed to consider the governors message of the 7 February instant have attended that service & ask Leave to Report the following Resolve

Jedidiah Preble p^r order

Whereas there are now in this Town two Indians of the Penobscot Tribe, Capt Neptune & a young Indian Lad and whereas the situation of our Publick affairs in the Eastern parts of this Common welth makes it necessary to keep up a Friendly intercourse with Said Tribe

Therefore Resolved that the Commissary general be and he hereby is directed forth with to procure one uniform Coat, Two Hats, two Shirts, two Pare of Indian Stockins one Blanket & two pare of Shoes & two pares of Breeches & deliver the Same to Said Indians & Charge the Same to this Common welth

Read & Accepted

Sent down for Concurrence S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Feb^{ry} 14th 1783

Read and concurred Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Approv'd John Hancock

^A Two Hundred Powder one Hundred & Fifty of Balls

^B three Hundred Shot Two Hundred Flints Knives Sixty

Hatchets fifty Tin Kittles Twenty Thred Twenty Large
Needles one Thousand wormers sixty Steels to strike Fire
sixty one Hundredth of Tobacco Ten small Arms
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Resolves in re Abatement and Assessments of Taxes.

In the House of Representatives Feb^y 13th 1783.

Resolved that the selectmen & assessors of the several Towns & districts within this Commonwealth, shall meet together at some place within their respective Towns or districts, on the day of next, of which meeting they shall give previous notice seven days at least before the said time of meeting, by posting the same up in two or more public places, within their respective towns or districts, at which meeting they shall abate and discharge one fifteenth part of the quota, of their said towns or districts of the second moiety of the continental Tax, granted in the last session of the general court, & that the said abatement shall be credited and allowed on the taxes of those persons who in the Judgment of said selectmen & assessors, would be most distressed by the Collection thereof. And the said Selectmen shall forthwith make out fair & legible duplicate lists of the names of the persons whose Taxes they may abate as aforesaid & the sums to be to them respectively credited in the said Tax, one whereof they shall deliver to the constable or Collector in whose hands the assignments of the said Tax are & the other to the town Clerk where any such officer is, and where there is not, shall be retained in the hands of the said selectmen or assessors,—

And it is further resolved that the Treasurer of this Commonwealth be & he hereby is directed to credit to the several Towns, who now stand charged their respective Quota, of

ciples & practice of said Persons & of the extensive beneficial consequences that evidently resulted to the public from their apprehension & committment & your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray

Joseph Mclellan

Feb^y 6th 1783

Resolve to Tax County of Cumberland.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Feb^y 7th 1783

on the Representation of the Justices of the Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the County of Cumberland that the sum of three Hundred and Sixty pounds will be necessary for Defraying the Charges of said County for one year next Ensuing

Resolved that there be and hereby is granted a tax of three hundred and Sixty pounds to be apportioned and assessed on the Rateable Polls and Estates in said County and the Same be Colected and paid into the treasury thereof and applied for the use of said County agreeable to the Laws of this Commonwealth

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

In Senate Feb^y 7th 1783 —

Read & Concurred with Amendment at A

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

at A insert, "by the Clerk of the peace for the County of Cumberland upon the several Towns within the same."

In the House of Representatives February 7th 1783

Read and concurred

Tristram Dalton Speaker.

Approv'd

John Hancock.

At a Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the County of Cumberland begun and holden at Falmouth in said County on the last Tuesday of October A. D. 1782

Ordered that the Clerk transmit to the General Court the following

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For paying the Charges that may attend the holding said Court the present Term £80. Ditto next May Term £130. Ditto next October Term £80 Ditto for the Supream Judicial Court next June £30 For repairing the Goal £20 For laying out Roads £20 amounting in the whole to £360 —

Att Sam Freeman Cler.

Allowance to Collectors of Excise.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate Feb^r 6th 1783

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Council Chamber Boston 7th Feb^r 1783

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May it please your Honors.

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the Estate thereby reduced to the inconsiderable Value of three hundred Pounds at the highest computation: That a Libel in behalf of the Government was filed against the Premises at the Inferior Court at Falmouth in March 1782 & from that Court continued untill the next Court in October last at which Time Judgment was given on said Libel by Default; That your Petitioner had engaged Council to appear in his behalf & claim said Estate, but the Gentleman he had requested to attend in his behalf was disappointed in not being at said Court, & thereby the Default was suffered: Your Petitioner therefore prays the honorable Court, under the singularly difficult Circumstances of your Petitioners Case, to direct that the Default aforesaid be taken off & your Petitioner be admitted to defend his Claim to said Estate; or that your Honors would direct a Reversal of the Judgment aforesaid & a Dismission of said Libel, as the Commonwealth cannot eventually be benefited by the Sale of said half Acre of Land while the Bond & Mortgage remain undischarged in the hands of said Waldo or his Heirs, And your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever pray

Simeon Mayo

Boston 8th Feb^r 1783

The committee to whom this petition was committed ask leave to report the annexed resolve

E H Robbins p^r order —

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the house of representatives February 11th 1783

On the petition of Simeon Mayo praying that the default suffered at the court of Common pleas last holden at Falmouth within and for the County of Cumberland upon a libel filed against a certain Estate as the property of Francis Waldo an absentee mentioned in the said petition may be taken off and the said Mayo admitted to defend the same — Resolved

General Assembly to take our Situation with the grievous Burdens and Distresses we labor under into Consideration, and lay not upon us the Penalty we are liable to by not sending our Proportion of the three months Men when it has not been in our Power to raise them by hiring or any other Way, while sinking under so many grievous Burdens.

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the Estate thereby reduced to the inconsiderable Value of three hundred Pounds at the highest computation: That a Libel in behalf of the Government was filed against the Premises at the Inferior Court at Falmouth in March 1782 & from that Court continued untill the next Court in October last at which Time Judgment was given on said Libel by Default; That your Petitioner had engaged Council to appear in his behalf & claim said Estate, but the Gentleman he had requested to attend in his behalf was disappointed in not being at said Court, & thereby the Default was suffered: Your Petitioner therefore prays the honorable Court, under the singularly difficult Circumstances of your Petitioners Case, to direct that the Default aforesaid be taken off & your Petitioner be admitted to defend his Claim to said Estate; or that your Honors would direct a Reversal of the Judgment aforesaid & a Dismission of said Libel, as the Commonwealth cannot eventually be benefited by the Sale of said half Acre of Land while the Bond & Mortgage remain undischarged in the hands of said Waldo or his Heirs, And your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever pray

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the County of Plimouth, Joseph Nye Esq^r for the County of Barnstable, Samuel Fales Esq^r for the County of Bristol, Jonathan Chesley Chadbourn Esq^r for the County of York, M^r Caleb Ammidown for the County of Worcester, Joseph North Esq^r for the County of Lincoln, Cap^t William Bacon for the County of Berkshire—

Ordered, that the Secretary be and he hereby is directed forthwith to notify the aforementioned Gentlemen of their Elections, and request their Answers respectively

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives February 11th 1783.

Read and concurred

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Approv'd

John Hancock

Resolve in re Allowance of Collectors.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The committee of Both Houses appointed to take into Consideration the proper allowance to be made to the Collectors of Excise in this Commonwealth have considered that Matter: and report the Following Resolve—

Aaron Wood p^r Order

Resolved, that the following allowance be made to the Several Collectors of Excise for the present year which shall be in full for their Respective Services and Necessary assistance. Viz— To the Collectors for the Counties of Suffolk & Essex Two p^r cent on the sums they shall respectively Collect.

To the Collector for the County of Middlesex three p cent. on the sum he shall Collect

To the Collectors for the Counties of York Cumberland
Lincoln & Berkshier, Five p^r Cent and to the Collectors of the
other counties in this Commonwealth Four p^r Cent

In Senate Feb^r 10th 1782

Read & accepted

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Feb^r 11th 1783

Read and concurred with amendment at A

Viz at A insert "Nantucket Dukes Conty

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

In Senate Feb^r 11th, 1783

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd John Hancock.

John Sewall Jr. to Governor.

York Feb^r 11th 1783

Your Excellency

Having been pleased with the advice of Council in the
year 1781 to nominate and appoint me Register of Probate
for the County of York—I would beg leave to observe, that,
the fees and perquisites thereof are too inconsiderable to
enable me to give that attention to it that such an office re-
quires—As I am meditating a remove to a distant part of
the County, where it will be inconvenient to have the office
kept; I ask leave to resign; and, that your Excellency would
be pleased to nominate some other person to that office in my
stead.

I am respectfully your Excellency's most obedient humble
servant

Jn^o Sewall jun^r

Daniel Sewall of York

ciples & practice of said Persons & of the extensive beneficial consequences that evidently resulted to the public from their apprehension & committment & your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray

Joseph Mclellan

Feb^r 6th 1783

Resolve to Tax County of Cumberland.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Feb^r 7th 1783

on the Representation of the Justices of the Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the County of Cumberland that the sum of three Hundred and Sixty pounds will be necessary for Defraying the Charges of said County for one year next Ensuing

Resolved that there be and hereby is granted a tax of three hundred and Sixty pounds to be apportioned and assessed on the Rateable Polls and Estates in said County and the Same be Colected and paid into the treasury thereof and applied for the use of said County agreeable to the Laws of this Commonwealth

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

In Senate Feb^r 7th 1783 —

Read & Concurred with Amendment at A

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

at A insert, "by the Clerk of the peace for the County of Cumberland upon the several Towns within the same."

In the House of Representatives February 7th 1783

Read and concurred

Tristram Dalton Speaker.

Approv'd

John Hancock.

At a Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the County of Cumberland begun and holden at Falmouth in said County on the last Tuesday of October A. D. 1782

Ordered that the Clerk transmit to the General Court the following

Estimate of the Sums necessary to be raised to defrey the Charges of said County the year ensuing— viz—

For paying the Charges that may attend the holding said Court the present Term £80. Ditto next May Term £130. Ditto next October Term £80 Ditto for the Supream Judicial Court next June £30 For repairing the Goal £20 For laying out Roads £20 amounting in the whole to £360—

Att Sam Freeman Cler.

Allowance to Collectors of Excise.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate Feb^r 6th 1783

Ordered that Aaron Wood & Caleb Davis Esq^{rs} with such as the Hon^{ble} House may be a Committee to take into consideration and report the proper Allowance to be made to the Collectors of Excise in this Commonwealth

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Feb^r 7th 1783

Read and concurred and Cap^t Wales M^r Frazier & D^r Hall are joined

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Message of Governor.

Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of the House of Representatives

I have this moment receiv'd a Letter from Col^o Lithgow by two Indians of the Penobscot Tribe, these Indians are

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S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Feb^r 7th 1783

Read and concurred and Cap^t Wales M^r Frazier & D^r Hall are joined

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Message of Governor.

Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of the House of Representatives

I have this moment receiv'd a Letter from Col^o Lithgow by two Indians of the Penobscot Tribe, these Indians are

come to make application for Sundry Articles for the use of the Tribe. The Letter with a Commission given one of these Indians by Brig Gen^l Lovell, I have directed the Secretary to lay before you — I have given Orders that these Indians should be taken Care of this Night & have become responsible for their Expences — I cannot but recommend these Papers & the Case of these Indians to your Consideration, & your Determination Shall be communicated to them immediately upon my receiving it,

John Hancock

Council Chamber Boston 7th Feb^r 1783

In Senate February 7th 1783

Read and thereupon Orderd that Jedidiah Preble Esq^r with such as the Hon^{ble} House shall join be a Committee to take this Message together with the papers accompanying the same into Consideration and make report what may be proper to be done thereon

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives February 8th 1783

Read and concurred and Col^o M^cCobb & Col^o Grow are joined

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Petition Inhab^{ts} Town of Arundel.

To the honorable Senate; and the honorable House of Representatives in General Court assembled.

May it please your Honors.

We your Petitioners Inhabitants of the Town of Arundel beg Leave to represent our Situation to you and intreat your Attention to it. The Calamities of War have spread Difficulties and Scattered various Distresses thro' the County in

general, but more especially in several Towns in the eastern part of it situated on the Sea Coast which have been deprived of the Profits of Navigation for several Years past in a very considerable Degree. The Scarcity of Provisions by the Obstruction of Navigation and the Loss of our Vessells on one Side and the Severity of the Drought last Summer on the other have made it so extremely difficult to procure them by any Means that many of our Poor People have been reduced to very grievous Straits, and have suffered very much for the Want of them, not having wherewith to pay their Proportion of the public Taxes and provide the Necessaries of Life for their Families.

The very considerable Numbers of Men at various Times gone from us into various Parts of the World some of which have perished at Sea, others in the public Service on the Land have died and left Families in the Depth of Wretchedness in continual Want of the Necessaries of Life and unable to procure any of them; many more have been and are yet in Captivity; besides those who are already in the continental Army, by which Means our Men who are able to go into the Army are reduced to a very small Number scarcely sufficient for our own defence from the Ravages of the Enemy to which we have been and are continually exposed; so that it is extremely Difficult to procure Men among us at any Rate; and impossible without hiring them at a very extravagant Price.

These are some of the many Difficulties and Distresses the Inhabitants of this County and we in this Town in particular have labored under for some time past, and are yet heavy upon us. And for these Reasons we have been deficient in procuring our Quota of the three Months Men for the Service of the Army, and not for Want of a zealous Attachment to the Interests of our Country.

Wherefore we the Selectmen of the Town of Arundel in behalf of said Town do humbly and earnestly intreat the

scot, and the dangerous situation of the Eastern frontiers of the Commonwealth together with some proposals for the defence or entire liberation thereof from danger

Ever disposed to give the utmost succour to every part of the United States | which the means intrusted to my care will enable me to do | when invaded or menaced by the Enemy I can never fail to pay a due consideration to the calls of a State, whose exertions have been so great & meritorious as those of Massachusetts — There are however two things in expectation which do at this time prevent my giving any positive Answer to the proposition, and which may, in case either of them should take place eventually supersede the necessity of taking any further measures on the subject; the first is | the most desirable of all events | a general Pacification — the second | should the first mentioned event not happen, is a project for attacking the garrison of New York with an intention to reduce or exterminate the Enemy by a single decisive Effort; should this be resolved on as the most eligible measure after the maturest deliberation, it will doubtless be conceded on all hands that while our resources ought to be open for the attainment of this object every subordinate consideration must of course give place to one of almost infinitely greater Magnitude

But as these matters are now before Congress to whom I have had the honor of submitting them, and whose decision respecting offensive or defensive operations. I shall await for the government of my future conduct; I can only add that altho I do not conceive how a serious Expedition could with any prospect of success be attempted against the Enemy at Penobscot without a Naval co-operation on account of the heavy expence and consequent impracticability of land transportation for the Artillery, Stores, &c; I beg it may nevertheless be understood I shall always be ready to give my concurrence to any judicious plans which will contribute to the

security of the exposed extremities of your Commonwealth whenever the circumstances will admit & whenever an object of confessedly higher consideration & importance shall not occur to prevent it — In the mean time should the War be protracted and only defensive measures adopted, the protection & safety of the eastern frontiers of your State (a Territory whose Utility is very deeply impressed upon me) will claim & receive my particular attention

With perfect respect I have the Honor to be Gentlemen

Your most humble and Most Obedient Servant

G^o Washington

The Honorable Sam^l Adams Esq President of the Senate
and Tristram Dalton Esq^r Speaker of the House of
Representatives

In Senate March 6th 1783

Read & Sent down

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives March 6th 1783

Read and sent up —

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Petition James Hunter.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts To the Hon. Senate & the
House of Representatives in General Court assembled.

The Petition of James Hunter humbly Sheweth That in the year 1779 your Petitioner served 2 Months & 21 days as a Major in Col^o Sam^l M^oCobb's Regiment of Militia which was employ'd against the British Garrison at Penobscot as may appear by s^d Col^o M^oCobb's Roll, now in the Office of the Committee for liquidating accounts; but by the establishment made for said Regiment & others employ'd on that expedition, your Petitioner's pay & Rations does not amount to more than one third part of what he would have been intitled to receive

according to the continental Establishment, which, as your Petitioner conceives, is evidently unjust & unequal & he therefore humbly prays that your Honors will be pleased to take the matter into consideration & grant that he may be allowed continental pay Rations during his being in Service as aforesaid & your Petitioner will pray &c

James Hunter

Boston Feb^r 24th 1783

Notice to Selectmen Town of Windham.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

House of Representatives Feb^r 25th 1783

On the petition of the Selectmen of the Town of Windham, in the County of Cumberland setting forth that the legality of a meeting held in said Town on the 25th of March 1773 is called in Question for reasons set forth in said petition therefore Ordered that the petitioners notify all persons concerned by publishing the prayer of their petition with the order thereon three weeks successively in Willis's Independent Cronicle twenty days at least before the second wednesday of the next sitting of this Gen^l Court where they are hereby ordered to appear and shew cause (if any they have) why the prayer of said petition should not be granted

Representation of Selectmen Accompanying Above.

To the Honorable Senate and the Honorable House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court Assembled — Humbly shew

The Selectmen of the Town of Windham in the County of Cumberland in said Commonwealth —

That agreeably to an Act of the General Court pass'd A D 1773 the hundred Acre Lots in said Windham described in said Act were assessed one penny half pr Acre by the As-

sessors chosen at a Meeting of the Inhabitants of said Town held on the 25th March the same year— That the Owners of several of said Lots neglected to pay the said Tax - -and thereupon so much of their s^d Lands were sold as was sufficient to pay the same—

That the purchasers received Deed of the said Assessors & some of them have improved and disposed of the Lands they so purchased—

That the legality of the said March Meeting hath lately been called in question on pretence that some of the Inhabitants were not Voters— That although some Disputes arose when the said Assessors were chosen, it was determined by the Moderator of s^d Meeting that they were fairly chosen - -and a Record was made at the Time thereof— That much confusion would arise in said Town— and great Injury accrue to the Purchasers of Said Lands if the assessments & Sales aforesaid should be judged illegal—

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray your Honors to pass some Act whereby the Record aforesaid should be established, and adjudged in Law sufficient evidence of the legality of the Choice of Assessors as aforesaid, notwithstanding any disputes that may arise with respect to the qualifications of Voters at said March Meeting

And your Petitioners as in duty bound will pray

Edward Anderson	}	Selectmen of Windham
David Bowker		

Windham Sep^r 12 1782

David Sewall to Tristram Dalton Esq.

Boston Feb^r 28 1783

Sir,

On Casting my Eye over Willis Cronicle Yesterday I found an Advertisement Respecting the Unimproved Lands

in the Plantation called Littlefalls, in York County; of Lady Mary Pepperrell's being assessed at £14.. 19.. 7 and the last Monday in March next, fixed for the Sale of so much of them as would pay it—I am so much Acquainted With the Real Estate of Lady Pepperrell, that I am fully persuaded She has none there, but such as were given her in the Will of Sir W^m Pepperrell, and those were during her Life only and after her Decease, Were devised over to his Grandson William Pepperrell Sparhawk the late Mandamus Counciller Now Known by the Name of Sir William Pepperrell—As Lady Pepperrell has only her Life in these Lands tis very unlikely she will pay the Taxes—and they may be sold for a 1/10 or perhaps 1/20 of their Value—As all the Interest Sir William Deceased Claimed under William or Bridget Philips, (Which by the by was Considera^b) I take it was devised to his Lady and Daughter during their lives only, and, after their Decease to his Grandson aforesaid—Now if Government expect to be Benefitted hereafter by these Lands as accruing to them by the confiscation of Sir William Pepperrell's Estate—Would it not be adviseable to take Some order to prevent the Sale of any part of them for the Non payment of Taxes and as all the Landed Interest the dec^d Sir William left in the County of York may be devised to the Lady Pepperrell & her Daughter Mrs. Sparhawk in the same Manner Query if Some Person might not be authorized to Confer with them on the Subject of their Interest in the Unimproved Lands, and to make some agreement or Composition with them about these Unimproved Lands I find that the general Court in the last Sessions, appointed Benj^a Chadbourn Esq^r Nathan Wells Esq^r & myself to make Partition on the part of the Commonwealth, With the Heirs & assigns of Will^m Philips—This appointment has Induced me amid the Hurry of other Business, in View of the Advertisement aforesaid to Suggest these Hints as they may be

improved to the Advantage of Government Whether the Plantation of Littlefalls or any other Plantation unincorporated has a Right to Tax unimproved Lands may be a Question! at least in all future assessments it might be well to Express it plainly one way or the other

I am Sir Your most Humble Serv^t

David Sewall

Hon. Tristram Dalton Esq^r

Resolve on Petition Capt. Henry Dyer.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives March 1, 1783

On the Petition of Capt Henry Dyer Praying that he with the officers & men Belonging to his Company of Rangers so called in the year 1780 may be allowed their Rations whilst in the service of this State agreeable to a Resolve of the general Court of the fifteenth of Nov^r 1780

Resolved that the Commissary General be & he is hereby directed to Deliver to Cap^t Henry Dyer two thousand three hundred & Eighty Pounds of beef with an equal quantity of flour in full for the said Dyers & his companys Rations whilst in the service of this State to be by him delivered to each Person Respectively to whom it is due, Taking duplicate Receipts for the same one of which to be Returned in to the Secretarys office otherwise to account with the said Commissary General therefor

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

In Senate March 8th 1783

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd

John Hancock.

Resolve on Petition Benj^a Dunning et al.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the house Representatives March 11th 1783 —

On the petition of Benj^a Dunning and John Rodick Select men of the town of harpswell Praying for an abatment of two of the three Soldiers Which the Said town of harpswell were ordred to raise By a Resolve of the General Court passed March 7th 1782 —

Resolved that the said town of harpswell Be abated Two men any Resolve to the Contrary notwithstanding and It is further Resolved that the said town of harpswell Be im- powered to assess the inhabitants of said town for the one man that they procured in the same manner as tho' Said town had But one man to Raise

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

In Senate March 12th 1783

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd

John Hancock

Resolve in re Execution of Martial Law.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate March 11 1783

Whereas Brigadier General Wadsworth was by a Resolve of the General Court passed the 15th day of March 1780 impowered to Execute Martial Law within certain Limits in the County of Lincoln, and Whereas Doubts have arisen & may hereafter arise respecting the true Intent & Meaning of the said Resolve so far as it relates to the Limits within which Martial Law might be executed which have been &

may hereafter probably be the Foundation of divers Disputes & vexatious Law Suits unless prevented by an Explanatory Resolve of the Legislature therefore

Resolved that according to the true Intent & Meaning of the said Resolve the Limits for exercising martial Law in the said County not only extended to & included all places within the said County being within Ten Miles of the main Ocean but also to all places in the said County within Ten Miles of any Navigable Inlet Harbour or River which might be considered as part of the Sea or so communicating therewith as to be navigable by Armed Ships or Vessels & the said Resolve always ought to have been so understood; & shall be construed & practised upon accordingly

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives March 12th 1783

Read and concurred

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Approv'd

John Hancock.

Petition of Sarah Nason.

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and House of Representatives of the Common Wealth of Massachusetts in general Court assembled

Humbly Shews

Sarah Nason of York in the same County Widow relict of Shubal Nason late of the same York, yeoman deceased — Intestate — That the said Shubal Nason, who at the Time of his Death was a private Soldier in the Service of the United States, died Siezed in Fee of Twenty five Acres of land in said York under a small Incumbrance by Way of Mortgage to one Josiah Parsons of Whom the same was purchas^d That at the Time of his Death he left two small children, and your

Petitioner pregnant with a Third—Which since his Death has been born, and is still liveing—That She finds it very difficult to support herself and the three Children by the income of the said Twenty five Acres of Land—and she has now an opportunity of disposing the same by Way of exchange with Joshua Bridges and Jasper Grant for about Thirty Acres of other Land in the same Town, much to the advantage of herself and minor Children, as she apprehends, had she legal authority thus to do, Wherefore she prays this Hon^{ble} Court to authorize her to Exchange the same Lands her late Husband purchased of the said Jos Parsons—with Joshua Bridges & Jasper Grant—or to sell and dispose of the same in Fee to other Persons & the proceeds of the Sale to Vest in other Lands for the use of the Petitioner and the minor children in the same way and manner the same Lands purchas^d of s^d Jos Parsons, by Law described, and your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray &c—

Sarah + Nason

York Jan^y 20th 1783

Witness Nicolas Sewall

We the Subscribers are satisfied of the Truth of the Facts within mentioned are of Opinion that the Proposed exchange of Lands will, all Circumstances taken in Consideration be advantageous to the Widow and for the benefit of the Minor Children—

Joseph Simpson	} Selectmen
Nicolas Sewall	
Joseph Weare	
	of the Town
	of York.

Resolve Appointing Edward Grow.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives March 12th 1783

Resolved that Edward Grow Esq^r be & hereby is appointed Agent in & for the County of York to receive the price of

corn, Beef, Sheep, Wool & Sole Leather, in order to ascertain the value of the notes given to the officers & Soldiers of this Commonwealth's quota of the Continental Army for the depreciation of their wages, in the room of M^r Joseph Sewall deceased

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

In Senate March 13th 1783

Read & concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd

John Hancock

Resolve in re Land in Plantation Little Falls.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House Representatives March 17th 1783

On the Representation of the Honorable David Sewall Esq
Whereas the Land Lying in the plantation of Little Falls
Advertised in Willises Chronicle to be sold for the payment
of Taxes Assessed on the Same in 1781 Appears not to be the
Estate of Lady Mary Pepperrell but appears to belong to this
Common Wealth —

Therefore Resolved that Joseph Chadbourne Collector of
Taxes for the plantation of Little falls is hereby Directed
not to Sell the said Land but to apply To Thomas Ivers Esq
Treasurer of this Common Wealth to allow him the Same on
the Tax of October 1781 & the Said Thomas Ivers Esq is
hereby Directed to Discompt with the said Joseph Chad-
bourne the Sum of Fourteen pounds Nineteen Shillings &
Seven pence being the Sum assessed on the said Land with

Fifteen Shillings, it being the Cost of Advertising the Said Land & it is hereby further Resolved That the Hon^{ble} Benj^a Chadbourne & David Sewall & Nathaniel Wells Esq^r be a Committee to Confer with Lady Mary Pepperrell & his Daughter M^{rs} Sparhawk on the Subject of their Interest in the said unimproved Lands, or any other Lands which they hold in the same Manner and to make some Agreement or Composition with them for the same in Behalf of this Commonwealth and to make Report of their Doings thereon To the General Court for their Approbation

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

In Senate March 18, 1783

Read & Concurred as taken into a New Draft

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives March 19th 1783

Read and concurred

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Approv'd John Hancock

James Lunt to John Avery.

Falm^o March 17th 1783

Sir

I this day rec^d yours of the 25th past, informing me of my Appointment as a Collector of Excise for the County of Cumberland. (I had rec^d previous information & wrote to a Gentleman of the House respecting the matter but have rec^d no returns) Sir I gladly accept the appointment, and think my-

self under the Highest Obligations, therefor, hoping to answer every expectation Sir, I am with much Esteem

Your faithfull Humb' Serv^t

John Avery Esq^r

James Lunt

Resolve Relative to Land in Plantation Little Falls.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives March 18th 1783

On the Representation of the Honorable David Sewall Esq^r that certain Unimproved Lands called Lady Pepperrell's, in the plantation of Little Falls in York County app'd £14.. 19. 7, & advertised for Sale in order to pay the same, are in his opinion the Property of Sir William Pepperrell an Absentee & may accrue to this Commonwealth by a Confiscation of the said Absentee's Estate

Resolved that Joseph Chadbourne Collector of Taxes for the Plantation of Little falls, be & He hereby is prohibited selling the said Land, and the Treasurer of this Commonwealth is hereby directed to stay his Execution against the said Collector for the said Tax of £14 : 19 .. 7 untill the further Order of this General Court; & the said Treasurer is further directed to allow the said Collector Fifteen Shillings for Costs of advertising the said Land —

And it is further Resolved That the Honorable Benjamin Chadbourne David Sewall & Nathaniel Wells Esquires be & they hereby are constituted a Committee to examine & ascertain the State of the Property, of the unimproved Lands above mentioned, & also any other unimproved Lands in the said County of York in a like Predicament; and the said Committee are authorized & impower'd, in the Cases that may appear to them necessary, to treat with Lady Mary Pepperrell & her Daughter on the Subject of their Right or Interest in any of the said Lands, to propose Terms of Agree-

according to the continental Establishment, which, as your Petitioner conceives, is evidently unjust & unequal & he therefore humbly prays that your Honors will be pleased to take the matter into consideration & grant that he may be allowed continental pay Rations during his being in Service as aforesaid & your Petitioner will pray &c

James Hunter

Boston Feb^y 24th 1783

Notice to Selectmen Town of Windham.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

House of Representatives Feb^y 25th 1783

On the petition of the Selectmen of the Town of Windham, in the County of Cumberland setting forth that the legality of a meeting held in said Town on the 25th of March 1773 is called in Question for reasons set forth in said petition therefore Ordered that the petitioners notify all persons concerned by publishing the prayer of their petition with the order thereon three weeks successively in Willis's Independent Cronicle twenty days at least before the second wednesday of the next sitting of this Gen^l Court where they are hereby ordered to appear and shew cause (if any they have) why the prayer of said petition should not be granted

Representation of Selectmen Accompanying Above.

To the Honorable Senate and the Honorable House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court Assembled — Humbly shew

The Selectmen of the Town of Windham in the County of Cumberland in said Commonwealth —

That agreeably to an Act of the General Court pass'd A D 1773 the hundred Acre Lots in said Windham described in said Act were assessed one penny half pr Acre by the As-

sessors chosen at a Meeting of the Inhabitants of said Town held on the 25th March the same year—That the Owners of several of said Lots neglected to pay the said Tax—and thereupon so much of their s^d Lands were sold as was sufficient to pay the same—

That the purchasers received Deed of the said Assessors & some of them have improved and disposed of the Lands they so purchased—

That the legality of the said March Meeting hath lately been called in question on pretence that some of the Inhabitants were not Voters—That although some Disputes arose when the said Assessors were chosen, it was determined by the Moderator of s^d Meeting that they were fairly chosen—and a Record was made at the Time thereof—That much confusion would arise in said Town—and great Injury accrue to the Purchasers of Said Lands if the assessments & Sales aforesaid should be judged illegal—

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray your Honors to pass some Act whereby the Record aforesaid should be established, and adjudged in Law sufficient evidence of the legality of the Choice of Assessors as aforesaid, notwithstanding any disputes that may arise with respect to the qualifications of Voters at said March Meeting

And your Petitioners as in duty bound will pray

Edward Anderson	}	Selectmen
David Bowker		of
		Windham

Windham Sep^r 12 1782

David Sewall to Tristram Dalton Esq.

Boston Feb^r 28 1783

Sir,

On Casting my Eye over Willis Cronicle Yesterday I found an Advertisement Respecting the Unimproved Lands

according to the continental Establishment, which, as your Petitioner conceives, is evidently unjust & unequal & he therefore humbly prays that your Honors will be pleased to take the matter into consideration & grant that he may be allowed continental pay Rations during his being in Service as aforesaid & your Petitioner will pray &c

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts

House of Representatives Feb^y 25th 1783

On the petition of the Selectmen of the Town of Windham, in the County of Cumberland setting forth that the legality of a meeting held in said Town on the 25th of March 1773 is called in Question for reasons set forth in said petition therefore Ordered that the petitioners notify all persons concerned by publishing the prayer of their petition with the order thereon three weeks successively in Willis's Independent Cronicle twenty days at least before the second wednesday of the next sitting of this Gen^l Court where they are hereby ordered to appear and shew cause (if any they have) why the prayer of said petition should not be granted

Representation of Selectmen Accompanying Above.

To the Honorable Senate and the Honorable House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court Assembled — Humbly shew

The Selectmen of the Town of Windham in the County of Cumberland in said Commonwealth —

That agreeably to an Act of the General Court pass'd A D 1773 the hundred Acre Lots in said Windham described in said Act were assessed one penny half pr Acre by the As-

sessors chosen at a Meeting of the Inhabitants of said Town held on the 25th March the same year—That the Owners of several of said Lots neglected to pay the said Tax—and thereupon so much of their s^d Lands were sold as was sufficient to pay the same—

That the purchasers received Deed of the said Assessors & some of them have improved and disposed of the Lands they so purchased—

That the legality of the said March Meeting hath lately been called in question on pretence that some of the Inhabitants were not Voters—That although some Disputes arose when the said Assessors were chosen, it was determined by the Moderator of s^d Meeting that they were fairly chosen—and a Record was made at the Time thereof—That much confusion would arise in said Town—and great Injury accrue to the Purchasers of Said Lands if the assessments & Sales aforesaid should be judged illegal—

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray your Honors to pass some Act whereby the Record aforesaid should be established, and adjudged in Law sufficient evidence of the legality of the Choice of Assessors as aforesaid, notwithstanding any disputes that may arise with respect to the qualifications of Voters at said March Meeting

And your Petitioners as in duty bound will pray

Edward Anderson	}	Selectmen
David Bowker		of
		Windham

Windham Sep^r 12 1782

David Sewall to Tristram Dalton Esq.

Boston Feb^r 28 1783

Sir,

On Casting my Eye over Willis Cronicle Yesterday I found an Advertisement Respecting the Unimproved Lands

according to the continental Establishment, which, as your Petitioner conceives, is evidently unjust & unequal & he therefore humbly prays that your Honors will be pleased to take the matter into consideration & grant that he may be allowed continental pay Rations during his being in Service as aforesaid & your Petitioner will pray &c

James Hunter

Boston Feb^r 24th 1783

Notice to Selectmen Town of Windham.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

House of Representatives Feb^r 25th 1783

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And your Petitioners as in duty bound will pray

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David Bowker		

Windham Sep^r 12 1782

David Sewall to Tristram Dalton Esq.

Boston Feb^r 28 1783

Sir,

On Casting my Eye over Willis Cronicle Yesterday I found an Advertisement Respecting the Unimproved Lands

in the Plantation called Littlefalls, in York County; of Lady Mary Pepperrell's being assessed at £14.. 19.. 7 and the last Monday in March next, fixed for the Sale of so much of them as would pay it—I am so much Acquainted With the Real Estate of Lady Pepperrell, that I am fully persuaded She has none there, but such as were given her in the Will of Sir W^m Pepperrell, and those were during her Life only and after her Decease, Were devised over to his Grandson William Pepperrell Sparhawk the late Mandamus Counciller Now Known by the Name of Sir William Pepperrell—As Lady Pepperrell has only her Life in these Lands tis very unlikely she will pay the Taxes—and they may be sold for a 1/10 or perhaps 1/20 of their Value—As all the Interest Sir William Deceased Claimed under William or Bridget Philips, (Which by the by was Considera^l) I take it was devised to his Lady and Daughter during their lives only, and, after their Decease to his Grandson aforesaid—Now if Government expect to be Benefitted hereafter by these Lands as accruing to them by the confiscation of Sir William Pepperrell's Estate—Would it not be adviseable to take Some order to prevent the Sale of any part of them for the Non payment of Taxes and as all the Landed Interest the dec^d Sir William left in the County of York may be devised to the Lady Pepperrell & her Daughter Mrs. Sparhawk in the same Manner Query if Some Person might not be authorized to Confer with them on the Subject of their Interest in the Unimproved Lands, and to make some agreement or Composition with them about these Unimproved Lands I find that the general Court in the last Sessions, appointed Benj^a Chadbourn Esq^r Nathan Wells Esq^r & myself to make Partition on the part of the Commonwealth, With the Heirs & assigns of Will^m Philips—This appointment has Induced me amid the Hurry of other Business, in View of the Advertisement aforesaid to Suggest these Hints as they may be

improved to the Advantage of Government— Whether the Plantation of Littlefalls or any other Plantation unincorporated has a Right to Tax unimproved Lands may be a Question? at least in all future assessments it might be well to Express it plainly one way or the other

I am Sir Your most Humble Serv^t

David Sewall

Hon. Tristram Dalton Esq^r

Resolve on Petition Capt. Henry Dyer.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives March 1, 1783

On the Petition of Capt Henry Dyer Praying that he with the officers & men Belonging to his Company of Rangers so called in the year 1780 may be allowed their Rations whilst in the service of this State agreeable to a Resolve of the general Court of the fifteenth of Nov^r 1780 —

Resolved that the Commissary General be & he is hereby directed to Deliver to Cap^t Henry Dyer two thousand three hundred & Eighty Pounds of beef with an equal quantity of flour in full for the said Dyers & his companys Rations whilst in the service of this State to be by him delivered to each Person Respectively to whom it is due, Takeing duplicate Receipts for the same one of which to be Returned in to the Secretarys office otherwise to accompt with the said Commissary General therefor

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

In Senate March 8th 1783

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd

John Hancock.

Therefore Resolved, that so much and such part of the said Resolve of November the 12th 1782 as directs the said Committee to purchase the said Vessel, & also so much & such other part of the said Resolve as empowers the said Committee to receive the said fifteen Hundred pounds, be & the same hereby are repealed & rendered null & void. And it is further Resolved that the said Fifteen Hundred pounds be paid to Richard Devens Esq^r Commissary General who is hereby directed to appropriate so much of the same, as may be necessary, to the refitting the sloop Winthrop & the Purchase and Equipment of the aforementioned Vessel & Boat; the Residue to be applied, as Occasion may require, to the purchasing & transporting Provisions Stores or other Necessaries for the Supply of the aforementioned Five Hundred Men —

Provided Nevertheless, that in Case any Intelligence or Event shall happen in the Recess of the General Court, which in the Judgment of the Governor & Council, shall render the foregoing Provision for the Defence of the Eastern Parts of this Common Wealth unnecessary, the Governor be, and he is hereby empowered & requested to suspend the carrying the aforesaid Resolves into Execution.

*Appointment Richard Codman et als Appraisers
Waldo Estate.*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To Richard Codman and Ephraim Jones Esq^{rs} and Mr. Benjamin Titcomb Gentleman all of Falmouth in the County of Cumberland, and sufficient Freeholders — — —Greeting

The General Court of said Commonwealth having by their Resolve of the fourth of February last impowered us the Subscribers, a Committee for selling Absentees Estates in said County of Cumberland, to cause such parts or parcels of the

Estate of Francis Waldo late of Falmouth in said County Esq. an Absentee as should by us be judged most advantageous to said Commonwealth to be appraised by three good and sufficient Freeholders on Oath as should be sufficient to satisfy the demands of the Creditors Estate —

We do hereby nominate and appoint you to apprise upon Oath the following Lots of Land late belonging to the said Francis Waldo viz

Two thirds of three fifths of a Lot of Land in said Falmouth late the Homestead of Brigadier Samuel Waldo Deceased bounded on Middle Street and beginning at the South-easterly Corner of Enoch Freeman Esq^r Lot —

A Lot or Piece of Land at Stroutwater containing about an Acre an three quarters of an Acre lately improv'd by Mr George Tate

Also

A Small Lot which said Waldo bought of M^r Timothy Cutler situated in King Street & containing four hundred square feet —

Together with such other Land belonging to said Waldo Estate as shall be shewn to you by us — And make return of your doings to us, as soon as may be, that we may be able to carry into Execution the Resolve aforesaid —

Dated at Falmouth aforesaid the Nine-teenth day of March A. D. 1783

N. B. The amount of the Debts is £254 .. 17 .. 8

John Lewis, Sam^l Small, Sam^l Freeman
Cumberland Ss, March 19th 1783 —

The above named Richard Codman Ephraim Jones and Benjamin Titcomb, appeared and made oath that in performing the Service assigned them by the foregoing Commission, they would act faithfully & impartially according to their best Skill & Judgment

Coram John Lewis Just^s Paces

Cumberland Ss Falmouth March 27, 1783

We the Subscribers being appointed by the foregoing Commission to appraise several pieces of Land therein mentioned, have agreeably thereto upon oath appraised the same as follows viz

The two thirds of three fifth of the Home Stead of the late Brigadier Samuel Waldo being the Lot of Land first mentioned — at the Sum of Two hundred and eight pounds lawful money.

The Lot of Land at Stroutwater being the second described piece of Land containing about one Acre & three quarters of an Acre, at the Sum of Seventy five Pounds —

The small Lot in King street, being the third mentioned Lot in said Commission Containing about four hundred square feet at the Sum of Thirty Pounds —

Witness our hands

Richard Codman, Eph^m Jones, Benj^a Titcomb

Certificate in Favor John Bane.

Number four March 19th 1783

These may Certifie to whom it may Concern that the subscriber was Appointed Commanding Officer of a party Continantil and Militia Troops at Frenchmans Bay By Order of Col^o John Allan in October 1780 and am Well knowing that the following articles viz^t thirty Hundred & twenty two pounds of Beef Sixty Seven & 2½ Bushel of Corn Seventy five & ½ Bushels Potatoes one Bu^a pease ten pounds of fish was advanc^d By M^r John Bane. Appointed Acting Commissary and other Inhabitants of Frenchman's bay for the use of Said Troops under my Command and that M^r Bane Received my orders for the Dellivery of the Greater part of

the said Provision to Said Troops, all which orders from myself and other Commanding officers for the time being. I have No Doubt Was Burned in M^r Beans house the winter after which puts it out of M^r Banes Power to Settle the matter as he other wise would Do

A. V. Campbell
Col^o Militia

M^r Bane informs me that the Common Wealth has paid him for 1600 ^{lb} Beef and 83 Bu^a Corn Computing Corn and Potatoes Together

A C.

Memorial and Petition John Hovey.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To the Hon^l the Senate & House of Representatives in General Court Assembled—

the Memorial and Petition of John Hovey of Arundel in y^e County of York, Humbly Sheweth that your memorial^{ts} on y^e 22^d Day of June Last, Lost a Pocket Book with Several Notes or Government Securities to the Vallue of Ninety-two Pound thirteen Shillings which Pocket Book I have never been able to obtain since.— Wherefore your Petitioner Prays that he may be allow^d the Consilidated Vallue of said Notes as your Petitioner Can Produce the minutes of the Several Sums and Dates of said Notes, and Your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall Ever Pray.—

John Hovey

The Deposition or Representation of John Hovey of Arundel in y^e County of York, Testifieth and Saith that in y^e Month of June Last he y^e Deponent was Possessed of a number of State Notes of y^e following Denomination^s Viz one of

10£ one years Interest Paid Dated Jan^r first 1777 one Do Jan'y 2^d 1777 10£ one Do Jan'y 2^d 1777 10£ Jan'y 15th one Do of 10£ four pound ten Shillings Indors^d on y^e back one Do December 1, 1777 of 24£ 13/ Payable to John Hovey one Do Jan'y y^e 15th 1778 10£ one Do Jan'y y^e 1 1777 10£, one Do Jan'y 1st 1777 of 12£ 10/ Payable to Charles Huff. All Which Notes he Lost With his Pocket Book on y^e 22^d Day of said Month and hath Never found neither his Pocket-book nor his notes. The Manner in which s^d Notes were Lost is as follow^s Viz on y^e 22^d of June Last y^e Deponant was Coming to Boston by Water they were Pursued by an Enemy & out of hopes of Escapeing in the Vessel Bundeled up their Cloathing & Beading in a hurry & threw them into their Boat & Endeaver^d to make their Escape in her & y^e Deponent Puting his Pocket in a bundle Loosely not haveing time to Secure his things well. and y^e Enemy Pursuing them in y^e Boat brought them to and ordered y^e Deponent on board to take in his things which he Did and Missing his Pocket Book Made Enquiry of his own People whither they had seen it, and y^e man that handed in the bundle said that it Dropt out & fell in y^e Boat and he took it up and Laid it upon the Chain-wale of y^e Brig and thought that I had taken it. Upon Which I made it known to y^e Master of y^e Brig not knowing but some of his People might have taken it and he was so kind as to make Diligent Enquiry of all his hands Whither any of them had got it or had seen it Which they said they had not Upon Which your Deponent Concluded that it fell overboard.

Jn^o Hovey

Boston March y^e 24th 1783

the above Named John Hovey Personaly appeared and made oath to the truth of y^e above Representation by him

Subscribed Before me

Jabez Fisher Jus^t Peace

The Governor to General Court.

Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of the House of
Representatives

Upon the arrival of the armed Sloop Winthrop in this Port from her Cruise, I gave early directions to the Commissary General to fit as Quick as possible the said Sloop for the Sea, that she might be employed for the protection of the Eastern Coast; By a Letter I have this day received from the Commissary General, which I have directed the Secretary to lay before you, I find the Commissary is not able to Compleat the Business without further means, I am therefore under the necessity of Requesting the attention of the General Court to the situation of the Sloop, as with their aid the Sloop may be at Sea in a Very few Days,—

John Hancock

Council Chamber Boston March 24th 1783

In Senate March 24th 1783

Read & sent down

S Adams Presid^t

Letter Enclosed.

His Excellency John Hancock Esq^r Governor & Commander
in Chief of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

May it please y^r Excellency

Being sensible of the Importance of the Sloop Winthrop being ready for the protection of the Eastern Coast as soon as possible, I have lost no time since I receiv'd your Excellency's order of the 14th Instant, and she is now in such forwardness that she may be ready for sea in two or three days, to proceed so far as I have; I have borrow'd money and contracted debts for Immediate pay. Supposing that by the

Resolve of Octob^r 21st 1782 I should receive the money brought by Cap^t Little but Cap^t Little informs me the money is Otherwise disposed off: I must therefore beg your Excellency to relieve me in some Other way or it will be Impossible for me to compleat the business.

I am y^r Excellencys most Obedient Hum^{le} Serv^t

Rich^d Devens Com^r Gen

Receipts and Reports in re Absentees' Estates.

To the Honorable Senate and the Honorable House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts —

May it please your Honors

In Pursuance of your Honors Resolve of the fourth of February last for satisfying the demands of the Creditors of Francis Waldo an absentee out of his Real Estate. We the Committee for selling absentees Estates in the County of Cumberland, have caused Two Lots or Parsels of said Waldo^s Real Estate, which, after consideration & enquiry, we judged most advantageous to the Commonwealth, to be appraized by three good and sufficient Freeholders on Oath viz A Lot of Land on Falmouth Neck in said County being two thirds of three fifths of the Homestead of the late Brigadier Samuel Waldo Deceased which was appraized at £208 — and a Lot of Land at a place called Stroutwater in said Falmouth appraized at £75 as by the Return of said Appraisers accompanying this Report will appear

The Demand of one of the Creditors viz Thomas Child Esq. was £197..9.. — The amount of the other Demands was £57..8..8. as from a Certificate of the Hon^{bl} William Gorham Esq^r, Judge of Probate of Wills &c for said County of Cumberland appeared —

Your Committee judged it would be injurious to the Commonwealth to divide the last mentioned Lot, as the Sum it

was appraised at, is as much, in all probability, as it would ever fetch—We have therefore given the Creditors whose Demands amounted to £57..8..8 as above mentioned, a Deed of the whole, and received of them security for the Ballance being £17.11.4— We have likewise conveyed to M^r Child, the whole of the Lot first mentioned—as the value of it according to said appraisement, was so near the Sum due to him, and have taken his security to pay the Ballance being £10..11..— on demand for which Ballances your Committee will be accountable

We hope our doings will meet with your Honors Approbation—and that in confirmation of the Sales above mentioned, your Honors will be pleased to accept of this Report—which with all due deference & respect is humbly submitted by

Your Honors most obedient hum^l Servants

John Lewis Sam^l Small Sam^l Freeman

The Receipts of the Creditors in satisfaction of their Demands upon the Estate above mentioned, accompany this Receipt—

Falmouth March 28 1783

Falmouth March 28 1783

Received of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, by Deed from the Committee for selling Absentees Estates in the County of Cumberland, a Lot of Land in said Falmouth being two thirds of three fifths of the Homestead of the late Brigadier Samuel Waldo Deceased in full satisfaction of all my Demands upon the Estate of Francis Waldo an Absentee as already settled with the Judge of Probate of Wills &c for the County aforesaid.— Said Demands being One hundred & ninety seven Pounds nine shillings Tho Child

Falmouth March 28. 1783

Received of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by Deed from the Committee for selling Absentees Estates in the

County of Cumberland, A Lot of Land, at a place called Stroudwater in said Falmouth, containing One Acre and three quarters of an acre, late belonging to the Estate of Francis Waldo Esq. an Absentee, in full satisfaction of our respective Demands upon said Estate— Being the Sums severally set against our names. viz

Enoch Freeman { Twenty five Pounds ten shillings & eight pence

Benj^a Bayley { Twelve Pounds ten shillings and six pence

Tho^a Browne { Ten Pounds

Jabez Jones { Nine Pounds seven shillings & six pence

Petition Jon^a Bean et al, Little Falls.

The Hon^{ble} Sennate & house of Representatives in General Court Assembled

The Petition of the Plantation of Little falls Humbly Sheweth that we are Cappitally agrieved in our apportion of the public taxes assigned us this three Years past from time to time, The Ground of our Confidence in this Ascertainment, is founded on the following Particulars. As we are not establish'd by Law in any Particular Boundaries, nor Ascertained what Particular Courses & Distances Comprehends any Certain Body, or tract of Lands, the three Adjacent towns to us have taken the Advantage of the Same and Renew^d their Bounds about the time of the Last General Valuations taking place, and have taken off near one third part of the polls and estates that we Included in our Valuation of which we stand Charg'd with and taxed for, of which the said Adjacents proceed to Recover taxes of each Particular so taken. Another Particular Instance May Serve to Remove all Doubts of this ascertainment. The town of Cox Hall (adjacent to us)

have upwards of one hundred Rateable Polls, when we have but fifty two and full one third more extensive in Lands than we are, and are Assess^d but the Same with us, even to a Penny, Many Simeler Instances might be Innumeraled, but this may Suffice to Discover an absolute unequality, as well as establish our Confidence —

Your Petitioners further Sheweth that we stand fined for the Delinquency of a three Year Soldier when at the Same time (Admitting our valuation to be Eequal) our Apportion According to the Schedule for that purpose Stands but two thirds of the Same, this Instance though Small, in effect, serves to augment our Distresses, and Whereas our Circumstances are such Considerable to bear up under the burden, to Particularize the many Instances would be Impractable, therefore we willingly Submit our Cause to the Consideration of the Hon^{ble} Court Relying on the Virtue & Righteousness of the event which we, in duty bound shall ever pray —

In behalf of the Plantation of Littlefalls
Plantation of Littlefalls April 7th 1783

Jon ^a Bean	}	Committee
Edward Smith		

John Allan to Governor.

Sir

I Do myself the Honour of Acquainting your Excellency of my Arrival in this Town last Evening — The Present Peaceable State of the Indian Eastern Department; The Publick business I have to Settle, with an Indisposition, I have been for sometime Afflicted with, I flatter myself will so far Justify me in Coming at this time as not to meet with your Excellencies Disapprobation —

The Hurry of business which I presume, your Excellency is daily Troubled with, Occations the Liberty I now take in

Writing. Shall be ready to Give my attendance & obey, at any time your Excellency thinks Proper to Call for me, or may otherways Order

I have the Honour to Be with the most Profound Respect
Your Excellencys Most Ob^t & most Hb^t Serv^t

J. Allan

Boston April 12th 1783.

Superscribed: His Excellency John Hancock Esq^r Gov^r
in & Over the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

John Allan to Governor.

Sir

Necessity compells me to trouble your Excellency at this Juncture—

My whole time during my continuing in the Service has been devoted to the Business consiquently destitute of every Other mean of Support then what arises from any Public Employ, Necessity has obliged me to come here at this time—I have a Famely in the Wilderness with the Indians, who are & has been for sometime in the Greatest want for the Common Support of Life—having Not Received from the Public two Months Rations since last Aug^t I am Unacquainted in these parts, destitute of Money or Friends—Must therefore Implore the favour that if there is any power Invested in your Excellency to Supply the Department—you woud so far Indulge me as to order some Little provisions—

I presume your Excellency is Informed by the Commis^r at Machias of the State of the Stores, woud Only Observe that there has been but Sixteen Barrils of Beef Sent for the Use of the Whole Business since last Aug^t—the Officers who have been duly faithfull in their Attention, has greatly suffered—

The Happy & Important News of Peace which has Arrived will no doubt direct your Excellency to give such further directions, as may be Most proper for the Public Service at the Post of Machias

I have the Honour to Be with Great Respect Your Excellency, Most Obedt & most Hble Sv^t

J Allan

Boston April 16th 1783

His Excellency John Hancock Esq^r

John Allan to Governor.

Sir

I have Honour of laying before your Excellency and the Hon^{ble} Council, a State of the persons, now in the service of the Indian Eastern Department, having discharged Every other person, as it Appeared needless, and an Unnecessary Expence to keep any more then what is in the Return.

I have also laid before your Excellency and the Hon^{ble} Council, as Accurate a State of the provisions as possible, have put down to the full the Quantity of Beef last sent down; which have been Deliv^d the Troops — By this may be seen the situation of the Department, it will lye with your Excellency, what further may be done in respect of military matters. In the Affairs of the Indians I shall have a further Occation of the men, in Order to settle some Assential matters with them —

I woud Humbly request, that I may receive an Order on the Commiss^r for some supplys, the difficulty & distress, I have Already Communicated to your Excellency, with the addition of the want for the Publick use — Urges me in being so Anxious & Troublesome —

I woud take the Liberty further to request. That Your Excellency woud not Grant any Order for supplys &c for the use of the Depart^t without my having an Opp^r for Examination, as I find Considerable sums have been Advanced unbeknown to me —

By the meeting of the Gen^l Court will have Every matter of the Depart^t properly Arranged for Examination.

I Submit the-whole to you Excellency & the Hon^{ble} Councils Pleasure

With the Greatest respect y^r Excellencys Most Hble Serv^t

J Allan

Boston April 17th 1783

His Excellency John Hancock Esq.

John Allan to Governor.

May it please Your Excellency

Upon Consulting the Commissary (Agreeable to your Desire) Find that there Can be procured in a short time, with what at present Can be spared 2000 w^t Flower Fifteen Barrells and Two Barrells Pork, which I would pray an Order for —

With Respect, Your Excellencys Most Hble Sv^t

J Allan

Boston April 17th 1783

His Excellency John Hancock Esq^r

List of Persons in the Indian Eastern Department

Col^o John Allan

Captⁿ John Preble — Absent from the Department since 23rd Aug^t Last —

Lieu^t Fred^k Delesdernier

Lieu^t William Albee

Jos B. Phillips Assistant

Jonathⁿ Ingersoll.
 Luther Homer
 Josiah Flagg Courier
 Sam^l Runnels Sirg^t
 Doctor Edwards
 S Davis Briant
 John Briant
 Jonathⁿ Niles
 John Bohanon
 John Camblenson

By Calculations there is due since the 1 st Ap ^l 1782 to the	
15 th Ap ^l 1783 — being 380 days }	7976 Rations
Rec ^d in July last 1500 Rations }	
D ^o Jan ^r in Beef 900 }	2400
due	5576 Rations
	J Allan

Advice of Governor Respecting John Allan.

In Council April 18th 1783

Advised — that the Commissary General be directed to deliver Col^o John Allen for the Use of the Indian Eastern Department ten Barrels of Flour fifteen Barrels of Beef and two Barrels of Pork — the said Commissary to charge the same to the Account of the United States —

Attest John Avery Sec^r

Superscribed: His Excellency John Hancock Esq Gov^r of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

John Allan to Governor.

May it please Your Excellency

The Accounts which I mentioned to be settled, when I Had the Honour of being before the Hon^{ble} Council; were

those which immediately Came thro my Own hands— As the War is Bro' to a Conclusion a Generell Settlement may be necessary— The Commissary which has acted under this Commonwealth, has received His Stores By different ways tho under my direction as Commanding Officer. I imagine he Views himself not Answerable to me; for Settlement

As I wish & it is my Design to my utmost Endeavours to give Satisfaction to Government respecting their Property Expended, I Woud humbly request—for fear of a refusal | should I demand | & that no time should be lost—to have an order from your Excellency to Call upon every person who have Conceivd for a settlement. With Every Possible Respect Your Excellency Most Hble Sv^t

J. Allan.

Boston April 25th 1783

Petition of Daniel Small et als.

To the Honorable Senate and the Honorable House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in General Court assembled—

The Subscribers Settlers upon a Tract of Land Situated between the Rivers of Great Ossipee & Little Ossipee, in the County of York—humbly shew

That some Years before the War, the Heirs of Daniel Small, who supposed they had a just Title to a considerable part of said Tract of Land, laid out a Township thereupon adjoining to Saco River— That your Petitioners have at different times since settled within the bounds of said Township and made considerable Improvements therein— That from the best Information they have since obtained, they find the said Tract of Land belongs to this Commonwealth— But the same is now claimed by the Heirs of Samuel Small, who have lately

commenced Actions against some of your Petitioners, and from what your Petitioners can learn, they are determined if possible to drive them from their Inheritances,—deprive them of the fruits of their labour and industry, and bring Poverty and Distress upon them and their Children —

Thus situated, Your Petitioners humbly beg leave to look up to your Honors for protection — From your Honors alone they expect that Relief which they humbly apprehend they are justly intitled to — and they hope the Government will interfere in their behalf —

They judge they can make it appear to the satisfaction of every impartial Person that the Interrupters of their Peace have no right to the Land in question — but that the Fee thereof properly and justly belongs to the Commonwealth — and they flatter themselves your Honors will not disturb them in their possessions, but for a reasonable consideration will quiet them therein, and suffer them to enjoy the same in tranquility

Your Petitioners apprehend their conduct in entring upon these Lands will not be considered as an Offence against the Government Although some of your Petitioners, when they first settled on said Land might judge them to belong to the Government, they had reason to hope they could make satisfaction for the same

They have endured many hardships in subduing the Wilderness — they have with the sweat of their Brows and the hard labour of their hands — made it capable of producing the Bread which now supports them — and in this they humbly think they have in some degree promoted the Public Interest — Some of your Petitioners have served three Years in the War which through the favour of Heaven is brought to a happy close — and they have the vanity to think they shall yet be useful subjects to the Commonwealth —

They however ask for nothing beyond the bounds of Reason and Justice— They are willing to pay the Government for their Lands on such Terms as (every circumstance considered) shall be judged just and equitable— But they cannot bear the thoughts of having their possessions wrested from them by those whose Claims are not supported by Law or Justice—

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honors would take such measures to support the Claims of Government, to the s^d Tract of Land, and pass such order for quieting Your Petitioners in their possessions thereon—as in your Wisdom, Justice and Goodness your Honors shall judge proper

And as in duty bound will ever pray—

May, 1783

Daniel Small,	Ezra Davis,	Richard Strout,
Timothy Small,	John McArthur,	Peter Sawyer,
Jacob Small,	James Miller Jun ^r	John Weeman,
Ebenezer Sawyer,	David Miller,	James Rill,
Joseph Sawyer,	Eliakim Tarbox,	Ezekiel Rich,
James Small,	Francis Small,	Isaac Small,
Reuben Small,	Daniel Dyer,	Joseph Stevens.
Joshua Sawyer,	Enoch Strout,	
Nathaniel Sawyer,	Peter Biter,	

Petition Selectmen of Newcastle.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts To the Honorable Senate
and the Honorable House of Representatives in General
Court Assembled at Boston—

May it please your Honors

The Petition of the Selectmen of Newcastle in the County
of Lincoln in behalf of said Town humbly Sheweth, That the

Town of New Castle are under peculiar necessity at present of imploring relief from your Honors: That the Wood and Lumber Trade of our Rivers before the commencement of the War were the chief means of bringing any money into the place, That the War at first brought great embarrassments upon this Trade, and reduced us to very Low circumstances; Yet being sperited in the Cause of our Cuntery, we always paid our Taxes and Turned out our men when there was a draft made upon us till the time when our Enemies took Post at Penobscut River; since which time we have severly suffered from the encrouchments of these our Hostile neighbours; who beside taking all our Lumber Vessels which belonged to the Town and almost intirely suppressing our Trade; incesantly infested our Rivers with their Armed Boats and preyed on every speacies of our navigation, from the Lumber vessel, to the smallest Cannoe that floats on the Tide; thus were we Deprived of the Fishing in and about the mouths of our Rivers, which heretofore was a great means of support to numbers of People, And altho our attention has since been more turned to agriculture, yet from the barrenness of the Soil and the sever droughts which have been in this part of the Country for a number of years past, our produce have never been equal to the consumption of the People— That this deffecency could be made up only by importation by water which has been attended with such a risque that the prices have been vastly enhanced. That the pressing necessities of the People, the painful sense of hunger, have obliged them to part with every vendable article of Property at the buyers price in order to procure Bread for their Famillics, giving some times a thousand of Bords for a Bushel of Corn and a Cow for four Bushils, and so in proportion for other Articles which our necessity compelled us to purches; thus have we draged along the Last three years till almost worn out and discouraged; and now should your Hon^r deal so

severly with us, as to require of us the Taxes laid on us when we were in a State but little better then imprisonment (which we hope and trust you will not) it would plunge us into such wreached circumstances that it would be out of our power ever to recover —

Your Petitioners would therefore humbly recommend the Town of Newcastle, under it present circumstances; to your Honors most wise and serious consideration, and pray your Honors to grant us that relief, which our necessity compells us to aske, Viz' a remittance of the Taxes laid on us by Government for the Last three years or other ways as your Honors see fit — and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray

Sam' Kennedy	}	Selectmen
James Little		of
Benjamin Woodbridge		New Castle

New Castle May y^e 10th 1783

Return of Votes.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Governor & Council upon Examination of the Returns of the several Towns in this Commonwealth found the Votes for Counsellors and Senators in the several Counties of said Commonwealth to stand as follows Viz' —

York		
Number of Voters		177
make a choice		89
Hon'ble Benjamin Chadbourn		101 }
Nathaniel Wells Esq ^r		129 }
		Chosen

Cumberland

Number of Voters	297	
make a choice	149	
Hon. John Lewis Esq ^r	155	Chosen

Lincoln

Number of Voters	155	
make a Choice	78	
Hon ^{ble} William Lithgow jun ^r	117	Chosen
In Council May 12 th 1783		

Attest John Avery Sec^y

Petition Town of Waldoborough.

To the Honourable the Senate & House of Representatives in
General Court assembled —

The Petition of the Town of Waldoborough in the County of Lincoln Humbly Sheweth, That by Reason of the Late war, this town has been Reduced to Great Distress, and tho now by the Blessing of Providence Peace be Restored into us: yet we shall Sorely feele the Effects of the War — By our Enemies taking Post at Penobscut and Continually infesting this Coast with their Privateers & small Boatts — our Lumber & fishing Trade in which alone we had any Concern — Has been almost totally Suppressed, almost Every Vesel we owned in the Begining of the war, fell into their hands: & tho from time to time Vesels have been purchased Money borrow^d for this purpose, whereby a debt has been Contracted as the Inhabitants Could not possibly subsist without Some to Convey their lumber to Market, yet of this we have been Stript of our Lumber & fish on Board, or the Returns of it in Provision for the Support of our families — So that by a Late Computation our Losses by water amounts to £3160 Besides the Arms Ammunition Provisions and Apparels that have been taken by

Plundering Refugees, The Season for a Number of years Past have been Verry unfavourable, and the Drought so severe that the Peoples Attention has been more than Ever to Coltivate their farms; yet they have not been able to Raise above half enough of Bread for their Consumption, and the resque of Importation being so Great, & many Dispos'd to take advantage of the necessities of others, there by the Price of the Necessities of Life has been raised So high that People were in the Greatest Difficultys & oblig^d to part with Evry Commodity they had to Dispose at the Buyers Price, So that Corn has been sold for four Dollars and more and other articles in Proportion — Our hay has also been Cut of with the Drought for several years So that our Stoks ar Greatly Diminished by what they were at the Begining of the War, & at Present there is Such a Scarcity of Bread that hardly all the Lumber we have on hand Can procure us bread for the Season, A Cord of wood not fetching above half a Bushel Corn — Besides the Debt Contracted by Individuals thro the occasions by the war, The most part of the State Taxes, for some years have not been Discharged, & the Town is utterly unable to Discharg the Same, & if your Honours should now exact from us these Taxes it would utterly Ruin the Town and Give Such a Crush to the town, as it Could not for many years Recover of & Put it out of its Power for the future to pay Such a Proportion of Taxes for Defraying the Expences of Government as otherwise it might, we would therefore beg your Honours would take our Distressing Situation under your Serious Consideration and Discharge us of these Taxes that were Due before Peace was made & your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall Ever Pray —

Philip M: Ulmer	} Selectmen of Waldoborough
Joshuah Howerd	
Jacob Ludwig	

Waldoborough May: 13: 1783

Memorial Grantees Townships No. One to Six.

To the Honorable Senate and the Honorable House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts—in General Court Assembled—

The Memorial of the Grantees of the Townships N° One—Four—Five—& Six lying to the Eastward of Mount Desert or Union River in said Commonwealth by their Committees, the Subscribers thereof—

Humbly sheweth

That the said Townships were granted to your Memorialists by the Honorable General Court of the Province of Massachusetts Bay, now Commonwealth of Massachusetts, on the 27th January A. D. 1764; upon this condition—viz—That your Memorialists should within a limited time, obtain a confirmation of said Grants from his Majesty the then King of Great Britain &c: The said General Court not having then authority to make an effectual Grant of any Land between the River Sagadahock and the Province of Nova Scotia (within which bounds the Townships aforesaid are included) until his Majesty should signify his approbation of the same—But thanks to an over-ruling Providence, it is, by a successful termination of the late War with Britain, become unnecessary to apply to Britains King to ratify the Acts and Doings of our General Assemblies—Your Memorialists therefore, with heartfelt satisfaction turn their backs upon his Authority—and address your Honors as the rightful Sovereign of the Commonwealth

Your Memorialists now consider this provisional Clause of their Grants as nul—and of no force or effect. and doubt not your Honors will so determine it—and that therefore—according to the true intent and meaning of our Honorable Grantors the said Townships are the proper Right in Fee of

your Memorialists — subject only to the Terms of Settlement as expressed in said Grants,

These Terms have in some Degree been complied with but the unwillingness of the said King to confirm the Grants has discouraged many of your Memorialists from settling their Rights.

They have nevertheless had their Towns surveyed and partly laid out in Lots — In doing which as well as in Prosecution of other measures for promoting their settlement — and their application to the s^d King for his approbation of their Grants, they have been at great Expence — Your Memorialists therefore humbly pray — That your Honors would renew the Grant of said Townships — and give them a further time to fulfil the Conditions of the same

And your Petitioners as in duty bound will pray —

Eben^r Thorndike, Committee for Township N^o One

Peter Woodbery, Committee for Township N^o four

Sam^l Freeman, Committee for Township N^o five

John Armstrong, Committee for Township N^o six

Cape Elizabeth May 20, 1783

At a Meeting of the Committees of the Townships N^o 1 N^o 4 & 5 & 6 at M^{rs} Mary Parkers in Cape Elizabeth the 20 May 1783

Voted Cap^t Eben Thorndike Chairman for N^o 1

Voted M^r Jn^o Armstrong D^o for N^o 6

Voted Sam^l Freeman Esq^r D^o for N^o 5

Voted M^r Peter Woodbary D^o for N^o 4

Voted the above Chairmen Sign the Petition for Confirmation of the above Towns in Behalf of the whole

Attest George Deake Clerk Prob^t

In Senate June 10th 1783

Read & thereupon Order'd that this Memorial & paper accompanying the same be Committed to the Committee of both

Houses appointed the 4th inst upon the Petition of Enoch Bartlett & ora. to consider the same and make report thereon
Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

Statement of Account.

State of the Account of Joshua Stone Agent to the Estate of Thomas Wyer late of Falmouth in the County of Cumberland Mariner — an Absentee

Allowance for his Services including his time &

Expences after a small Schooner belonging

to said Estate — — — — — £3 .. 18

Time & Expences of the Commissioners 3 .. 9

Sundry Probate Fees 1 .. 6 .. 6

£8 .. 13 .. 6

Cumberland Ss Allowed by y^e Judge of Probate for said County May 26, 1783 and recorded by

Sam^l Freeman Reg
Boston May 28th 1783

Petition Joseph Bertheaume.

To the Honorable The Senate and The House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in General Court assembled.

The Petition of Juniper Bertheaume Recollect, Instructor of the Penobscot Tribe of Indians, Humbly Shew,

That by a Resolve of the Honorable the General Court of this State dated November 11th 1780, Your Petitioner was granted, a Sum of five pounds new Emission per month, and

two rations per day, for his service in establishing the said Tribe, until their further order. That in consequence of that resolve, your Petitioner was paid his monthly Salary and daily rations to the 1st July 1781. That last year Your Petitioner came down again in expectation of receiving his salary and rations, then due agreeable to the above mentioned Resolve, but rations were not to be had, and your Petitioner was paid the Estimated value with a note of this State, which your Petitioner was obliged to sell at a very low rate, to provide part of a few necessary supplies. That deprived of sufficient means to maintain himself Your Petitioner has lived a most wretched life last winter, and undergone many and many hardships, too long and too painful to mention. That your Petitioner's wants being most urgent, your Petitioner is again come down, in hopes of receiving a more effectual relief, and has accordingly the honor of Petitioning the Honorable the General Court, that the Honorable the General Court may be pleased to issue proper orders, that Your Petitioner may be paid of his Salary and rations, or the same may be made good to him, in a manner adequate to his maintenance, and agreeable to your Justice, and as your Petitioner is entirely destitute of means, order that a certain sum be appropriated to pay your Petitioner's board and lodging during his stay in Boston, and your Petitioner impressed with a sense of gratitude will for ever pray

F^r Juniper Berthiaume Recollect

CommonWealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives June 4th 1783

On the Petition of Juniper Barthiaume Recolet, Instructor to the Penobscot Tribe of Indians

Resolved that his Excelency the Govourner with the advice of Council be and he is hereby requested to Draw on the Treasurer in Favour of the Petitioner for seventy four

Pounds six Shillings and four Pence which sum is the full of his Wages & Rations up to the first day of this instant June & forty eight shillings to Defray the said Juniper's Board and that he be Discharged from any farther service at the expence of this State

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

In Senate June 5th 1783

Read & Concurred as taken into a New Draft

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives June 5, 1783

Read & concurred

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Approv'd

John Hancock

Warrant drawn 7th June 1783

Resolve on Foregoing.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives June 4th 1783

On the Petition of Juniper Barthiaume Recollect Instructor to the Penobscot Tribe of Indians

Resolved that there be allowed and paid out of the public Treasury of this Commonwealth to Juniper Barthiaume Recollect Instructor to the Penobscot Tribe of Indians seventy four pounds six shillings & four pence which Sum shall be in full for his wages and Rations to the first day of this instant June—also the Sum of Forty eight shillings to defrey the said Juniper's Board, the said Sums to be charged to the United States; and that he be discharged from any further service.—

Petition John Bane.

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives
of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court
Assembled

Humbly Shews John Bane of a place called No. 2 in the County of Lincoln yeoman, that in the months of October, November and December in the year 1780 he was acting Commissary for the Continental and State Troops Stationed at a place called, Frenchmans Bay, in the eastern parts of this Commonwealth — that in Compliance with the orders of Col. Alexander Campbell and other Officers commanding the same Troops he procured and delivered out to them, the Provisions mentioned in the Schedule annexed, and hath received pay only for 1600 weight of Beef and 83 bushels of Corn and that in the beginning of the year 1781 the Dwelling House of your Petitioner was consumed by fire, whereby he lost all the orders and directions of the same officers for the delivery of the articles aforesaid, and is now unable to settle his accompts in the manner prescribed by the Laws of this Commonwealth — Wherefore he prays your Honors to take his Case into your wise consideration, and pass such a Resolve, as may enable your Petitioner to receive out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, what is justly due to him for the provisions aforesaid —

And as in duty bound will ever pray.

John Bane

June 10th 1783

Address of General Washington.

Head Quarters Newburgh June 11th 1783

Sir

The great object for which I had the honor to hold an appointment in the Service of my Country being accomplished,

I am now preparing to resign it into the hands of Congress, and to return to that domestic retirement, which, it is well known, I left with the greatest reluctance; A Retirement for which I have never ceased to sigh through a long and painful absence, and in which (remote from the noise and trouble of the world) I meditate to pass the remainder of life in a state of undisturbed repose.— But before I carry this resolution into effect, I think it a duty en incumbent on me to make this my last official communication; to congratulate you on the glorious events which Heaven has been pleased to produce in our favor, to offer my sentiments respecting some important subjects which appear to me to be intimately connected with the tranquility of the United States, to take my leave of your Excellency as a public Character, and to give my final blessing to that Country in whose service I have spent the prime of my life, for whose sake I have consumed so many anxious days and watchful nights, and whose happiness being extremely dear to me, will always constitute no inconsiderable part of my own.

Impressed with the liveliest sensibility on this pleasing occasion, I will claim the indulgence of dilating the more copiously on the subject of our mutual felicitation.— When we consider the magnitude of the prize we contended for, the doubtfull nature of the contest, and the favorable manner in which it has terminated, we shall find the greatest possible reason for gratitude and rejoicing;— this is a theme that will afford infinite delight to every benevolent and liberal mind, whether the event in contemplation be considered as the source of present enjoyment, or the parent of future happiness;— and we shall have equal reason to felicitate ourselves on the lot which Providence has assigned us, whether we view it in a Natural, a political, or a moral point of light.

The Citizens of America, placed in the most enviable condition, as the sole Lords and Proprietors of a vast tract of

Continent, comprehending all the various soils and climates of the world, and abounding with all the necessities and conveniences of life, are now, by the late satisfactory pacification, acknowledged to be possessed of absolute Freedom and Independency;— They are from this period to be considered as the Actors on a most conspicuous Theatre, which seems to be peculiarly designated by Providence, for the display of human greatness and felicity,— Here they are not only surrounded with every thing which can contribute to the completion of private and domestic enjoyment, but Heaven has crowned all its other blessings, by giving a fairer opportunity for political happiness than any other Nation has ever been favored with.— Nothing can illustrate these observations more forcibly, than a recollection of the happy conjuncture of times and circumstances under which our Republic assumed its rank among the Nations. The foundation of our Empire was not laid in the gloomy age of Ignorance and Superstition, but at an Epocha when the rights of Mankind were better understood and more clearly defined, than at any former period,—the researches of the human mind after social happiness have been carried to a great extent,—the Treasures of knowledge, acquired by the labours of Philosophers, Sages, and Legislators, through a long succession of years, are laid open for our use, and their collected wisdom may be happily applied in the Establishment of our Forms of Government,—the free cultivation of Letters,—the unbounded extension of Commerce,—the progressive refinement of Manners—the growing liberality of sentiment, and above all the pure and benign light of Revelation, have had a meliorating influence on Mankind and increased the blessings of Society; —At this auspicious period, the United States came into existence as a Nation, and if their Citizens should not be compleatly Free and Happy; the fault will be entirely their own.

Such is our situation, and such are our prospects;—but notwithstanding the Cup of blessing is thus reached out to us,—notwithstanding happiness is ours, if we have a disposition to seize the occasion and make it our own; yet it appears to me, there is an option still left to the United States of America,—that it is in their choice, and depends upon their conduct, whether they will be respectable and prosperous or contemptible and miserable as a Nation;—This is the time of their political probation,—this is the moment when the eyes of the whole World are turned upon them,—this is the moment to establish or ruin their National Character forever,—this is the favorable moment to give such a tone to our Federal Government as will enable it to answer the ends of its institution,—or this may be the ill-fated moment for relaxing the powers of the Union, annihilating the cement of the Confederation, and exposing us to become the sport of European politicks, which may play one State against another to prevent their growing importance, and to serve their own interested purposes;—For according to the System of Policy the States shall adopt at this moment, they will stand or fall, and by their confirmation or lapse, it is yet to be decided, whether the Revolution must ultimately be considered as a blessing or a Curse—a blessing or a Curse, not to the present age alone, for with our fate will the destiny of unborn millions be involved.

With this conviction of the importance of the present Crisis, silence in me would be a crime,—I will therefore speak to your Excellency the language of freedom and of sincerity without disguise;—I am aware however, that those who differ from me in political sentiment may perhaps remark, I am stepping out of the proper line of my duty, and they may possibly ascribe to arrogance or ostentation, what I know is alone the result of the purest intention,—but the rectitude of my own heart, which disdains such unworthy motives,—the part

I have hitherto acted in life,—the determination I have formed of not taking any share in public business hereafter,—the ardent desire I feel and shall continue to manifest, of quietly enjoying in private life, after all the toils of War, the benefits of a wise and liberal Government, will, I flatter myself sooner or later, convince my Countrymen, that I could have no sinister views in delivering with so little reserve, the opinions contained in this address.—

There are four things, which I humbly conceive are essential to the well being, I may even venture to say, to the existence of the United States, as an Independent Power—

1st An indissoluble Union of the States under one Federal Head.

2^d A Sacred regard to public Justice.

3^d The adoption of a proper Peace Establishment, and

4th The prevalence of that pacific and friendly disposition among the People of the United States, which will induce them to forget their local prejudices and politics, to make those mutual concessions which are requisite to the general prosperity, and in some instances, to sacrifice their individual advantages to the interest of the Community.—

These are the Pillars on which the glorious Fabrick of our Independency and National Character must be supported—Liberty is the Basis,—and whoever should dare to sap the foundation or overturn the Structure, under whatever specious pretexts he may attempt it, will merit the bitterest execration, and the severest punishment which can be inflicted by his injured Country.

On the three first Articles I will make a few observations, leaving the last to the good sense and serious consideration of those immediately concerned.

Under the first head, altho it may not be necessary or proper for me in this place to enter into a particular disquisition of the principles of the Union, and to take up the

great Question which has been frequently agitated, whether it be expedient and requisite for the States to delegate a larger proportion of Power to Congress, or not,—Yet it will be a part of my duty and that of every true Patriot to assert without reserve, and to insist upon the following positions,— That unless the States will suffer Congress to exercise those Prerogatives, they are undoubtedly invested with by the Constitution, every thing must very rapidly tend to anarchy and confusion,— That it is indispensable to the happiness of the individual States, that there should be lodged some where a Supreme Power, to regulate and govern the General Concerns of the Confederated Republic, without which the Union cannot be of long duration,— That there must be a faithful and pointed compliance on the part of every State, with the late proposals and demands of Congress, or the most fatal consequences will ensue,— That whatever measures have a tendency to dissolve the Union, or contribute to violate or lessen the Sovereign Authority, ought to be considered as hostile to the Liberty and Independency of America, and the Authors of them treated accordingly,— and lastly, That unless we can be enabled by the concurrence of the States, to participate of the fruits of the Revolution and enjoy the essential benefits of Civil Society, under a form of Government so free and uncorrupted, so happily guarded against the danger of oppression, as has been devised and adopted by the Articles of the Confederation, that it will be a subject of regret that so much blood and Treasure have been lavished for no purpose, that so many sufferings have been encountered without a compensation, and that so many sacrifices have been made in vain.— Many other considerations might here be adduced to prove, that without an entire conformity to the spirit of the Union, we cannot exist as an Independent Power;— It will be sufficient for my purpose to mention but one or two which seem to me of the greatest importance:— It is only in our

United Character as an Empire, that our Independence is acknowledged, that our Power can be regarded, or our Credit supported among Foreign Nations.—The Treaties of the European Powers with the United States of America, will have no validity on a dissolution of the Union — We shall be left nearly in a state of Nature, or we may find by our own unhappy experience that there is a natural and necessary progression from the extreme of anarchy to the extreme of Tyranny, and that arbitrary power is most easily established on the ruins of Liberty abused to licentiousness.

As to the second Article which respects the performance of Public Justice, Congress have, in their late Address to the United States, almost exhausted the subject,—they have explained their Idea so fully, and have enforced the obligations the States are under to render complete justice to all the Public Creditors, with so much dignity and energy, that in my opinion no real Friend to the honor and Independency of America, can hesitate a single moment respecting the propriety of complying with the just and honorable measures proposed;—if their Arguments do not produce conviction, I know of nothing that will have greater influence;—especially when we recollect that the System referred to, being the result of the collected Wisdom of the Continent, must be esteemed, if not perfect, certainly the least objectionable of any that could be devised; and that if it shall not be carried into immediate execution, a National Bankruptcy with all its deplorable consequences will take place, before any different Plan can possibly be proposed and adopted — So pressing are the present circumstances! and such is the alternative now offered to the States!

The ability of the Country to discharge the debts which have been incurred in its defence, is not to be doubted — an inclination, I flatter myself, will not be wanting.— the path of our duty is plain before us;—honesty will be found, on

every experiment, to be the best and only true policy;—let us then as a Nation be just;—let us fulfil the public Contracts which Congress had undoubtedly a right to make for the purpose of carrying on the War, with the same good faith we suppose ourselves bound to perform our private engagements;—in the mean time, let an attention to the chearful performance of their proper business as Individuals and as Members of Society, be earnestly inculcated on the Citizens of America,—then will they strengthen the hands of Government and be happy under its protection,—every one will reap the fruits of his labours,—every one will enjoy his own acquisitions, without molestation and without danger.

In this state of absolute Freedom and perfect security, who will grudge to yield a very little of his property to support the common interest of Society, and ensure the protection of Government? Who does not remember the frequent declarations at the commencement of the War, that we should be compleatly satisfied, if at the expence of one half we could defend the remainder of our possessions? Where is the Man to be found who wishes to remain indebted for the defence of his own person and property, to the exertions, the bravery, and the blood of others, without making one generous effort to repay the debt of honor and of gratitude? In what part of the Continent shall we find any Man, or body of Men, who would not blush to stand up and propose measures purposely calculated to rob the Soldier of his stipend and the Public Creditor of his due? and were it possible that such a flagrant instance of injustice could ever happen, would it not excite the general indignation and tend to bring down upon the Author of such Measures, the aggravated vengeance of Heaven?—If after all, a spirit of disunion or a temper of obstinacy and perverseness, should manifest itself in any of the States, if such an ungracious disposition should attempt to frustrate all the happy effects that might be expected to flow from the

Union, if there should be a refusal to comply with the requisitions for Funds to discharge the Annual interest of the Public debts, and if that refusal should revive again all those jealousies and produce all those evils which are now happily removed,—Congress, who have in all their transactions shewn a great degree of magnanimity and justice, will stand justified in the sight of God & Man;—and the State alone which puts itself in opposition—to the aggregate Wisdom of the Continent, and follows such mistaken and pernicious Councils, will be responsible for all the consequences.

For my own part, conscious of having acted while a Servant of the Public in a manner I conceived best suited to promote the real interests of my Country,—having in consequence of my fixed belief in some measure pledged myself to the Army, that their Country would finally do them complete and ample justice,—and not wishing to conceal any instance of my official conduct from the eyes of the World,—I have thought proper to transmit to your Excellency the enclosed collection of Papers, relative to the half Pay and commutation, granted by Congress to the officers of the Army,—From these communications my decided sentiment will be clearly comprehended, together with the conclusive reasons which induced me, at an early period, to recommend the adoption of this measure in the most earnest and serious manner;—As the proceedings of Congress, the Army, and myself are open to all, and contain in my opinion sufficient information to remove the prejudices and errors which may have been entertained by any, I think it unnecessary to say any thing more, than just to observe, that the Resolutions of Congress now alluded to, are undoubtedly as absolutely binding upon the United States, as the most solemn Acts of Confederation or Legislation:—As to the Idea, which I am informed has in some instances prevailed, that the half pay and commutation are to be regarded merely in the odious light of a Pension, it

ought to be exploded forever,—that Provision should be viewed, as it really was, a reasonable compensation offered by Congress, at a time when they had nothing else to give, to the Officers of the Army for Services then to be performed,—It was the only means to prevent a total dereliction of the Service,—It was a part of their hire,—I may be allowed to say, — it was the price of their blood and of your Independency,— it is therefore more than a common debt,— it is a debt of honor,—it can never be considered a pension or gratuity, nor be cancelled untill it is fairly discharged.

With regard to a distinction between Officers and Soldiers, it is sufficient that the uniform experience of every Nation of the World, combined with our own, proves the utility and propriety of the discrimination. Rewards in proportion to the aids the public derives from them, are unquestionably due to all its Servants,—In some Lines, the Soldiers have perhaps generally had as ample a compensation for their Services, by the large Bounties which have been paid to them, as their Officers will receive in the proposed commutation,—In others, if besides the donation of Lands, the payment of arrears of Cloathing and Wages (in which Articles all the component parts of the Army must be put upon the same footing) we take into the estimate the Bounties many of the Soldiers have received, and the gratuity of one years full pay, which is promised to all, possibly their situation (every circumstance being duly considered) will not be deemed less eligible than that of the officers;—should a further reward however, be judged equitable, I will venture to assert no one will enjoy greater satisfaction than myself, on seeing an exemption from Taxes for a limited time, (which has been petitioned for in some instances) or any other adequate immunity or compensation granted, to the brave defenders of their Country's Cause;—but neither the adoption or rejection of this proposition, will in any manner affect, much less militate against,

the Act of Congress by which they have offered five years full pay, in lieu of the half pay for life, which had been before promised to the Officers of the Army.

Before I conclude the subject of Public Justice, I cannot omit to mention the obligation this Country is under, to that meritorious Class of veteran Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates who have been discharged for inability, in consequence of the Resolution of Congress of the 23^d of April 1782, on an annual pension for life,—their peculiar sufferings, their singular Merits and claims to that provision, need only be known, to interest all the feelings of humanity in their behalf;—nothing but a punctual payment of their annual allowance, can rescue them from the most complicated misery,—and nothing could be a more melancholy and distressing sight, than to behold those who have shed their blood or lost their limbs in the service of their Country, without a shelter, without a Friend, and without the means of obtaining any of the necessaries or comforts of life, compelled to beg their daily bread from door to door!—suffer me to recommend those of this description, belonging to your State, to the warmest patronage of your Excellency and your Legislature.

It is necessary to say but a few words on the third topic which was proposed, and which regards particularly the defence of the Republic,—As there can be little doubt but Congress will recommend a proper Peace Establishment for the United States, in which a due attention will be paid to the importance of placing the Militia of the Union upon a regular and respectable footing, if this should be the case, I would beg leave to urge the great advantage of it in the strongest terms.

The Militia of this Country must be considered as the Palladium of our security, and the first effectual resort in case of hostility; it is essential therefore, that the same System should pervade the whole,—that the formation and discipline of the Militia of the Continent should be absolutely

uniform, and that the same species of Arms, Accoutrements, and Military Apparatus, should be introduced in every part of the United States;—No one, who has not learned it from experience, can conceive the difficulty, expence and confusion which result from a contrary System, or the vague Arrangements which have hitherto prevailed.

If in treating of political points, a greater latitude than usual has been taken in the course of this Address,—the importance of the Crisis, and the magnitude of the objects in discussion, must be my apology,—It is however, neither my wish or expectation that the preceding observations should claim any regard, except so far as they shall appear to be dictated by a good intention, consonant to the immutable rules of justice,—calculated to produce a liberal system of policy, and founded on whatever experience may have been acquired by a long and close attention to public business;—Here I might speak with the most confidence from my actual observations, and if it would not swell this Letter (already too prolix) beyond the bounds I had prescribed myself,—I could demonstrate to every mind open to conviction, that in less time, and with much less expence than has been incurred, the War might have been brought to the same happy conclusion, if the resources of the Continent could have been properly brought forth,—that the distresses and disappointments which have very often occurred, have in too many instances, resulted more from a want of energy in the Continental Government, than a deficiency of means in the particular States, that the inefficacy of measures arising from the want of an adequate authority in the Supreme Power, from a partial compliance with the Requisitions of Congress in some of the States, and from a failure of punctuality in others, while it tended to damp the zeal of those which were more willing to exert themselves, served also to accumulate the expences of the War, and to frustrate the best concerted plans;—and

that the discouragement occasioned by the complicated difficulties and embarrassments, in which our affairs were by this means involved, would have long ago produced the dissolution of any Army, less patient, less virtuous, and less persevering, than that which I have had the honor to Command.— But while I mention these things, which are notorious facts, as the defects of our Federal Government, particularly in the persecution of a War, I beg it may be understood, that as I have ever taken a pleasure in gratefully acknowledging the assistance and support I have derived from every Class of Citizens, so shall I always be happy to do justice to the unparalleled exertions of the individual States, on many interesting occasions.

I have thus freely disclosed what I wished to make known, before I surrendered up my Public trust to those who committed it to me—the task is now accomplished.— I now bid adieu to your Excellency as the Chief Magistrate of your State, at the same time, I bid a last farewell to the cares of office and all the employments of public life.

It remains then to be my final and only request, that your Excellency will communicate these sentiments to your Legislature at their next meeting, and that they may be considered as the Legacy of one who has ardently wished on all occasions to be usefull to his Country, and who, even in the shade of Retirement, will not fail to implore the divine benediction upon it.

I now make it my earnest prayer, that God would have you and the State over which you preside, in his holy protection, that he would incline the hearts of the Citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to Government—to entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another, for their fellow Citizens of the United States at large, and particularly for their Brethren who have served in the Field,—and finally that he would most graciously be pleased to dis-

pose us, all to do Justice, to love Mercy, and to demean ourselves with that Charity, Humility and Pacific temper of mind which were the Characteristicks of the Divine Author of your blessed Religion, and without an humble imitation of whose example in these things, we can never hope to be a Happy Nation.—

I have the honor to be with the greatest esteem & respect
Sir Your Excellency's Most Obedient and very Humble
Servant

G. Washington

In Senate June 26th 1783

Read and Sent down

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives June 26th 1783.

Read & thereupon Ordered that M^r Phillips, M^r Sedgwick, M^r Bacon, M^r Rows & M^r Hosmer with such as the Hon Senate may join be a Committee to consider this Letter & communications accompanying & report. And that said Committee report particularly a draft of a Letter to Gen^l Washington expressing the gratitude of this Commonwealth for the exertions of his zeal, firmness & patriotism & for his attention to the rights of the citizens & the honor of civil government during the course of the war & to congratulate him on the glorious terms of peace.

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Speaker

In Senate June 27th 1783

Read & Concurred & Eleazer Brooks, Sam^l Phillips jun^r, Charles Turner and Nath^l Wells Esq^r are joined

S Adams Presid^t

*A Bill Conferring the Rights of Citizenship to the Marquis
De La Fayette.*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts— In the Year of our Lord
one thousand seven hundred and eighty five—

An Act for Granting to the Right Honourable the Marquis
De La Fayette & to his Heirs the rights of Citizenship in
this Commonwealth—

Whereas this Country has derived ^A the greatest ^B benefits
from the Efforts of the Right Hon^{ble} The Marquis De La
Fayette in the cause of America,— Efforts ^C doubly Brilliant
from the Period of real danger in which they commenced,
as well as from the unremitted ardour with which they were
continued 'till the Glorious completion of those original
Views of the opposition in this Country, ^D the happy & per-
manent Establishment of our Peace Liberty & Safety— In
order therefore to give this Testimony to the World, and as
far as possible to transmit the Hon^{ble} remembrance of those ^E
Virtues & Exertions to Posterity which could only have been
inspired by a Thirst of true Glory, & the deepest reverence
for the Rights of Human nature ^F

Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Repre-
sentatives in General Court Assembled & by the Authority
of the same— That the Right Hon^{ble} the Marquis De La
Fayette late Major General of the Armies of the United
States of America ^G together with his Heirs— be and Here-
by are intituled to all the Rights, Liberties, Immunities, and
Privileges of a free Citizen of this Commonwealth ^H—

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that
the Secretary of this Commonwealth be & he hereby is
directed to transmit a true Copy of the foregoing Act under
the great Seal of this Commonwealth to the Right Hon^{ble}
The Marquis De La Fayette late Major General of the
Armies of the United States of America—

In the House of Representatives Feb^y 25th 1785

This Bill having had three several Readings passed to be Engrossed —

Sent up for concurrence Sam A Otis Spkr

In Senate Feb^y 28, 1785

Read the first time

dele from A to B & insert "essential"

dele from C to D & insert "brilliant from the real Danger at the Period when they commenced & the unremitted Ardor with which they were continued untill"

dele from E to F and insert virtuous Exertions to Posterity

dele from G to H & insert & his Heirs be and hereby are entitled to all the Rights Liberties & Immunities of free Citizens of this Commonwealth they conforming to the Requirements of Laws of the Commonwealth in the Exercise & Enjoyment of such Rights Liberties & Immunities —

[To Lafayette America owes a great debt. Arriving in this country at the age of nineteen he at once sought the side of Washington and from that moment devoted all his energies to the American cause. After a horseback ride of nearly nine hundred miles he was met with coldness by Congress; but not disconcerted by the manner of his reception he thus addressed them:

"After the sacrifices I have made, I have the right to exact two favours; one is, to serve at my own expense,— the other is, to serve at first as volunteer."

Sentiments of this character to which they were so little accustomed, awakened their attention; the despatches from the envoys were read over, and, in a very flattering resolution, the rank of major-general was granted to M. de Lafayette. His modesty, courage and ability gained him the friendship and admiration of those with whom he was associated.]

Acceptance Treasurer's Accounts Town of York.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives June 16 1783

Whereas it Appears Upon Examination of the Treasurer's Accounts for the County of York that All the moneys granted & allowed by the Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the said County from June 26, 1781, to January 1783, including Jan^r Term, was for such purposes & Appropriations as by Law the said Court were impowered to grant. Therefore Resolved that the said Accounts be Accepted & Allowed.

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

In Senate June 17th 1783

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve in re Estate Francis Waldo Esq.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate June 19th 1783

Whereas it appears to this Court by the Representation of John Lewis Esq^r & others a Committee for the Sale of part of the real Estate of Francis Waldo Esq^r an Absentee, with the papers accompanying the same, that the said Committee have disposed of part of the said real Estate amounting to Two hundred & eighty three pounds and have paid the demands on the said Estate amounting to Two hundred fifty four pounds seventeen shillings & eight pence & that there remains in the hands of the said Committee twenty eight pounds two shillings & four pence Therefore Resolved, that this Court do approve & Confirm the doings of the said

Committee & they are hereby directed to pay the aforesaid Sum of twenty eight pounds 2.4 into the Treasury of this Commonwealth taking duplicate Receipts therefor one of which to be lodged in the Secretary's office

In the House of Representatives June 30th 1783

Sent down for Concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Read & concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve in Favor John Bane.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives June 23^d 1783

On the Petition of John Bane praying for Payment for Sundry Provisions supply'd the Troops on the Eastern Department —

Resolved that the Commissary Gen^l be and he is hereby directed to pay to John Bane fourteen Hundred & twenty two pounds of Beef Twenty one Bushels of Corn one Peas and ten pounds of Beef Twenty one Bushels of Corn one bushel of Peas and ten pound of fish balance of his Acc^t with four Hundred Weight of beef for his time & Expence transporting the same and the whole be charged to the United States.

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

In Senate June 24th 1783

Read and Concurred

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd John Hancock.

The Governor Approves of the above Resolve & directs the Secretary to give a Copy thereof with his Approbation, being unable to Sign by reason of the Gout in his hand.

Resolve on Petition of Benj. West.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives June 30th 1783

On the Petition of Benjamin West praying for allowance for the loss of his Cloathing Firelock and Accoutrements at Quebeck in the year 1775 ¶ Resolved that the Prayer of the Petition be Granted and that there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth to the said Benjamin West the Sum of Eight pound twelve Shillings in full Compensation for losses sustained as above.

Action on Petition John Hovey.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives June 30th, 1783

On the memorial and petition of John Hovey of Arundel in the County of York Setting forth that on the 22^d day of June Last he was coming to Boston by water and was pursued by the Enemy and in Escaping from the Vessel into a Bote he Lost his pocket Book in which where Several State Notes of the following Value Viz one of ten pounds one year Interest paid thereon Dated January 1 1777 one D° of ten pounds Dated January 2^d 1777 one D° of ten pounds Dated January 2^d 1777 one D° of ten pounds Dated January 15 1777 Indorsed thereon four pounds ten shillings one D° of twenty four pounds thirteen shillings Dated December 1 1777 payable to John Hovey one D° of ten pounds Dated January 5 1778 one D° of ten pounds Dated January 5 1777 one D° of twelve pounds ten Shillings Dated January 1 1777 payable to Charles Huff praying that he may be allowed a Consolidated Note for the value of the aforesaid Notes

Resolved that the treasurer of this Commonwealth be and he is hereby Directed to give the aforesaid John Hovey a

Consolidated note to the Value of the aforesaid Notes he first Entering into Bonds to the Treas^r aforesaid that he will Repay the notes afores^d or Either of them if they Should be offered for Consolidation.

Petition of John Bakman.

To the Honorable the Senate, and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled

Humbly shews

John Bateman of Cape in the County of Lincoln — that in the Month of August, Anno Domini 1779, he was possessed of a large real and personal estate at the said Cape — that on the fourteenth day of the same month, he was driven from his estate by the British Soldiers, and American Refugees, that they are still in possession of the land, and have disposed his personal Estate among themselves inhabiting at the said Cape, and refuse to deliver any part thereof or the possession of his real estate to your petitioner — whereby he, with a numerous family of Children are entirely deprived of the means of subsistence, and for want of money he is unable to commence the legal process requisite in the ordinary Course of Law for the recovery of his property aforesaid.

Wherefore he prays your Honors to take his Case into your wise Consideration and grant him such relief as may be agreeable to equity and Justice and consistent with the Law of this Commonwealth

And he will ever pray

John Bakman

July 29 1783

Report on Petition of Wm M^cCobb and Action Thereon.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to consider the Petition of William M^cCobb, ask leave to report the following —

Charles Turner P^r Order

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate July 2 1783

On the Petition of William McCobb, praying that three certain Awards made against him, on behalf of Ebenezer Fullerton, Thomas McGuyer, and Patrick McGuire, might be Set aside. ^A

Resolved, for the reasons Set forth in the Same Petition, and Supported by evidence, ^B that the Award made by John Stenson, Nathaniel Thwing, and Edward Young, dated the thirtieth Day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand Seven hundred and eighty two, and in the Seventh year of the American Independence, wherein they awarded that the said McCobb should pay Patrick McGuyer Ten Pounds one Shilling, and one other Sum of four Pounds two Shillings — and also one other award made by the said Nathaniel John and Edward, on the thirtieth Day of August, in the year last above mentioned, wherein they awarded, that the said M^cCobb Should pay Ebenezer Fullerton, fourteen Pounds three Shillings — and one other Award made the twenty ninth Day of August last above mentioned, by the same Arbitrators, wherein they awarded, that the Said William Should pay Thomas McGuyer the Sum of thirty Seven Pounds thirteen Shillings and Seven pence, be, and they hereby are Set aside, and declared null and void; and that no action Shall be had or maintained, in any manner whatever, for the non performance of the same awards, or either of them; and that an Action brought by the said Thomas McGuyer, against the said McCobb, and pending by appeal at the Supream Judicial

Court, held at Falmouth in the County of Cumberland, and for the Counties of Cumberland and Lincoln in July 1782, be and hereby is revived, and either Party shall have the same right to prosecute, and proceed on the Same Action, at the Supream Judicial Court to be holden at Falmouth in the County of Cumberland, and for the Counties of Cumberland and Lincoln, on the Tuesday next after the fourth Tuesday in June, in the year one thousand Seven Hundred and eighty four, as they would have had regularly continued to that Term; and the Court aforesaid shall take Cognizance of the same accordingly.

Read and Accepted with Amendment at A

Sent down for Concurrence

S. Adams Presid^t

At A dele from A to B. and insert "Whereas the County of Lincoln at the time of making the said Awards were under peculiar Circumstances by reason of the Establishment of a British Garrison in that County, and it appears to this Court, that the Arbitrators as well Inhabitants in General of the said County were in a great degree under the Influence of the Enemy and their Adherents—Therefore Resolved."

In the House of Representatives July 2^d 1783

Read & Non-concurred

Tristram Dalton Speaker

Address of General Court to George Washington.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Boston July 10th 1783

Sir,

The Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court Assembled, take this Opportunity of congratulating you, on the happy Return of Peace—

Your Excellency, we are assured, will join with us, in the

Warmest Expressions of Gratitude to the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, under whose Influence & Direction the Struggles of a virtuous and free People have terminated in a Revolution which excites the Admiration of the World

Guided by His alwise Providence, your Country early fix'd her Eyes upon you! And confiding in those eminent Qualities which you possess'd, appointed you to the Command of her Armies.

The Wisdom of your Conduct in the Discharge of that important Trust, has given a compleat Sanction to the Appointment, and crown'd the most heightend Expectations.

In every Stage of the arduous Conflict, what trying Scenes have you not passed through! What Hardships have you not endured! What Dangers have you not encountered! May Heaven reward your unremitted Exertions! May you long live, beloved by a grateful Country, & partaking largely in the Enjoyment of those inestimable Blessings, which you have been so eminently instrumental in securing for us! While Patriots shall not cease to applaud, that sacred Attachment which you have constantly manifested to the Rights of Citizens — too often violated by Men in Arms, your Military Virtues and Achievements will be deeply recorded in the Breasts of your Countrymen & their Posterity, and make the brightest Pages in the History of Mankind"

We are with every sentiment of respect & Esteem, in the Name & Behalf of the General Court

Y^r Excellency's most Obedient & very hble Serv^{ts}
His Exc^d Gen^l Washington

Receipt from William Howard.

Hallowell y^e 25 of July 1783

Sir

I have Received of Co^l Josiah Brewar fourteen moose skins
ten beaver skins w^t 14½ lb thirty two sable skins three minks

one otter one fishar three musquoshs the above skins I have Shiped on board Sloop hope Tobias Oakman mastar which he will Deliver to you on his arrival in Boston Sir the above mentioned Skins with what I sent to you in the Spring by my brother Sam^l Howard is all that I have Received of Co^l Brewar

from your Verey Humble Sarvant

William Howard

Richard Devens Esq^r

State of the Several Accounts of Thomas Child Esq.

State of the several Accounts of Thomas Child Esq. Agent to the Estate of Francis Waldo late of Falmouth in the County of Cumberland Esq^r an Absentee viz^t

First Account

Paid for the Board of an old lame offensive Negro Man named Scipio, from y ^e 16 th April 1779 to October 21, 1780—79 Weeks at 12/	£47 .. 8 ..
D ^o Previous to the 12 Febr ^y 1779	4 . 16 —
Sundry Articles of Cloathing for the said Negro — at different Times	7 .. 16 .. 6
Expences attending y ^e Sale of Good —	— 12 —
Postage of Letters	— 8 —
Commissioners & Appraisers Accounts	5— 8 —
Paid for Extracts for the County Records	3—
Probate Fees in divers Instances	2—
Allowance for Time Trouble & Expence Horse }	20—
Hire — venduing Goods &c	
	£91 . 8 . 6
Deduct y ^e Personal Estate £16 . 16 . 3 }	21 . 11 . 3
Cash Rec ^d of Geo Tate 4 . 15	
Ballance due to T Child	£69 . 17 . 3

Cumberland Ss Allowed by y^e Judge of Probate for s^d
County Oct. 12, 1780 & recorded

p^r Sam^l Freeman Reg^r

Second Account

Cloathing for Scipio	£7 .. 4 .. 1
Commissions and Storage on Lime in Boston	— 17 . 11
Writ & Service against Thomas Cummings for Trespass	— 14 . —
Scipios Board from Oct 21, 1780 to April 6, 1782—76 Weeks 12/	45 . 12 . —
Allowance for Services as Agent	5 — —
Ballance of first Account	69 . 17 . 3
Probate Fees	6 .
	£129 . 11 . 3
Deduct Cash received for Lime	£19 . 17 —
D ^o of George Tate	2 . 16
	22 : 13 22 . 13

Balance due to T. Child £106 . 18 . 3

Cumberland Ss Allowed by y^e Judge of Probate for s^d
County April 6, 1782 & recorded.

p^r Sam^l Freeman Reg.

Third Account

Ballance of the second	£106 . 18 . 3
Cloathing for Scipio	1 . 12 . 4
Scipio's Board from April 6, 1782 to Jan ^r 4, 1783	26 . 2 .
Allowance for Services as Agent	1 . 16 .
Probate Fees	— 7 —
	£136 . 5 . 7

Cumberland Ss. Allowed by y^e Judge of Probate for said
County Jan^r 7, 1783 and recorded

p^r Sam^l Freeman Reg.

Fourth Account

Cloathing for Scipio	£3 .. 15 .. 4
Scipios Board from Jan 4, 1783 to Aug 30,	
1783 12/Week	20 .. 8—
Ballance of third Account	136 .. 5 .. 7
The said Agents Claim on said Estate as settled	
by the Commissioners	61 . 3 . 5
His Note to the Courts Committee	10 . 11 ..
Probate Fees	— 6—
	£232 . 9 . 4

The said Agent in this account Charges himself with	
Cash Received for Lime	£4 . 7 . 6
A Lot of Land conveyed to him by	
ye Courts Committee	208—
	£212 : 7 . 6

Cumberland Ss. Allowed by the Judge of Probate for said
County & recorded by

Sam^l Freeman Reg.

Petition Selectmen of Thomaston.

To the Honourable Senate and house of Representatives

We your petitioners humbly sheweth that whereas we are Inhabitants of the Town of Thomaston being a frontier Town upon the Enemy for four years past which were in possession of the Eastern side of Ponobscot Bay and we fronting on the western side of the same Which has greatly Distressed us for virtually we have been Prisoners at their wills & have suffered greatly by them some of our buildings Burnt our cattle killed & our substance greatly wasted and destroyed Likewise our small Navigation & fisheries all taken

from us and Many More difficulties too numerous to Relate likewise that our Town is mainly a very new Settlement mainly settled by those who Were put to straits by the late publick Calamity by reason of Other Callings failing were obliged to settle upon the wild lands where We could not get any proper Security of for to Cultivate in hopes to Get bread for our family's & likewise in hopes in some future time we might have the Justice done us not to lose our labor but Either That we might have our lands at what it was reasonably worth When we took it or that we might have the Value of what we made it better by our labor but further more we hope your honors will Consider that by proper Indulgence we may be able to help ourselves And be of Service to the Community in General & therefore We pray that your honors would take it into your wise Consideration Our distresses that we have been in & still Are under and Consider Our heavy taxes that we have not been Able to pay & still are not (not that we are Complaining of any Injustice done us by our Authority but we plead our Distresses & distress for altho' our Enemy has of late been at Peace with us yet we are left strip^d & wounded and likewise the Disaffected that a few months past had no respect In Appearance to our laws are now Distressing and harrissing Our best Friends Who had their Country's good at heart With their Own laws which still make our Case More difficult That we can see no way that unless your honor's can find out a way for our Relief but our Infant Town will be depopulated so we leave Our Case with you putting our Confidence in your wisdom & we your Petitioners are ever Bound in duty to Pray.

Sam ^l Brown,	} Select men of Thomaston
Oliver Robins Jun ^r	
John Simonton,	

September 13, 1783

Josiah Brewer to Governor.

Fort Halifax 15th Sept^r 1783

Sir

I inclosed you in my last of y^e 21st April two Receipts one from Col^l William Howard for the skins and furs the other from Ezekiel Pattee Esq^r for goods he has Received from me belonging to Government Which I hope came safe to hand, and I now Inclose you two more one from Col: Howard for skins and furs Received from the Indians for Debts that was due to Government there is still more skins and furs due which I shall Collect and forward as soon as possible—the other Receipt is from Ezekiel Pattee Esq^r for the Remainder of the Goods I had on hand belonging to Government—I still remain in a bad state of health, but Expects if possible to be in Boston in a short time I am

Sir With the greatest Respect your most Obed^t & very hum^{le} serv^t

Josiah Brewer

Winslow Sept^r 15 1783

Received of Josiah Brewer Truck master for the use of the Common welth of Massachusetts the following articals viz^t Eighty two pound of gun powder Sixty four pound^s Goos shott five yard & half Blue Ratten and five Hatchetts all which I promis to Deliver to Richard Devens Esq^r Com^r General or his sucesur in said office I have signed Two Recpts of the same tenor and Date

Ezekiel Pattee

Hallowell y^e 8 of July 1783

Received of Col^l Josiah Brewar for the use of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts the following articals Viz fourteen mooce Skins twelve pounds of spring beaver two and a half pounds of fall beaver three musquoshes three mink one

otter one fisher thirty two Sables all which I promise to Deliver to Richard Devens Esq^r Commiserry General the Dainger of the seas & fire Excepted.

William Howard

Petition and Remonstrance of Enoch Freeman et al.

The Honourable the Senate and the Honourable the House of Representatives in General Court Assembled.—

The Petition & Remonstrance of the Proprietors of a neck of Land in the Town of Falmouth in the County of Cumberland, by their Committee,

Humbly Shews

1 That at the beginning of the late War, a large Fortification was built on the heighth of Said Neck, by order of Government, for the common safety of the Publick; that the Persons Employed to build said Fortification, did dig up vast Quantities of Sods from the Land of Your Petitioners for the use of said Works, which almost ruined a number of Acres of Land, & a long House for Barracks was built within said Fortification, for the use of the Soldiers in opposing the common Enemy: by all which your Petitioners have lost the Benefit of Improving said neck, which contains 300 Acres, & the Same has laid open (untill the Summer past) & in common to the use of the Publick ever since, to the Damage of your Petitioners, in their Estimation, not less than six hundred pounds.

2 That contrary to the Expectation of your Petitioner, the said Barracks were hall'd off (it is said by order of Government, without notifying or consulting your Petitioners, or proposing any Compensation to them for said Damages, which was very unexpected to your Petitioners, Since Government did on the 7th Day of May 1777 pass a

Resolve that all Damages which have been or may be done to private property, by erecting such Fortifications Shall be fully compensated to the Proprietors.—

3 That many of your Petitioners, by the Town being burnt by the Enemy are reduced to great Straits & Difficulties, Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray Your Honours, will please to take the Premises into Consideration & grant them Adequate Compensation for said Damages, & your Petitioner, as in Duty bound will ever pray, &c—
Falmouth Sep^r 16th 1783.

Enoch Freeman
Jedidiah Preble

Memorial Inhab^{ts} of Boothbay.

To the Honorable Senate & Hous of Representatives for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts —

The Inhabitants of the town of Boothbay beg leave to represent to your Honours, that we have been ready and willing at all times during the late War with Grate Brittain, to contribute in behalf of Amarica Eaqual to any town in this Commonwealth in proportion to our ability and circumstances, and have answered all the demands of the Logislative Body in that respect to the Year of our Lord 1779 at which time the Enemy took post at Majabagaduce, but a little distance East of this Town; and this town being almost an Island or a neck, as we may say Sheepagut River makeing the west Side Damascotty River the East, and the Atlantic Ocion the South, so that we ware annoyed almost in every part of the town by the Enemies privateers & Boats, our Vessals have been cheafly taken which was the main Suport of the town, and our young men that was imployed in those vessals, by that means were dispersed, sum a privateering and sum in the Continental Army which left the town in low

circumstances, cut of from any commerce, or geting any Supplies, Abliged to keep sentries on our own Expence for the preservation of our lives & Estates; which has reduced this town to almost Extreme poverty; And now since peace, we remain in low circumstances, as we have not vessals of our own, nor Lumber to supply foring vessals as they have in other parts of this County up the Rivers. These circumstances has rendered this town incapable & unable to pay the public taxes since the year 1779. And for these reasons the Select men has posponded the Assessing Several Taxes knowing the Town unable to pay it—

Therefore we pray the Honorable Court to take our deplorable case into your wise Consideration, And if it is consistant to Your Honours wise Council, we wou^d pray for an abatement of our rereage taxes til news of peace & your petitioners as in Duty bound shall Ever pray

Boothbay 22^d Sept^r 1783.

Edward Emerson	} Committee appointed by the town for this purpose.
W ^m M ^c Cobb	
Ichabod Pinkham	
Tho ^s Boyd Jun ^r	

Petition Town of Bristol.

To the Senate, Counsel, and House of Representatives in
General Court Assembled

The humble petition of the Town of Bristol in the County of Lincoln & Common Welth of Massachusetts, most humbly sheweth—that we ware assest in a Beef tax, by a Resolve of the General Court, of Sept^r 25. 1780. of four thousand Weight of Beef which we paid to General Wadsworth at S^t Georges and have a Recp^t for the Same which we Inclose, and also was Taxt by another Resolve of Dec^r 4. 1780. and one other Tax in June 1781—for which tax we did Collect

part of s^d Beef—but no superintendent ever called upon us for s^d Beef until Jan^r at which time our Beef was Kil^d we not being able to Stall feed, it being a Verry scarce year for Hay, after which the Superintendent Could not Receive Salt Beef but ordered our proportion to be Drove alive to Barth, where they Should be Kill'd & he would give the town O^r for Beef, Hides & Tallow—which Distance is thirty od miles & a Defucalt Season to cross the Rivers, they being frozen, & not strong Enuff to Bare, for which Reason we Could not Drive what few cattle we had left to the s^d town of Barth & have not been Called upon Since, until now. Therefore we your petitioners humbly pray your Honours, to be pleased to take into your Consideration, the many Difficultys we have Labourd under,—which we sett forth to your Honours in a purticular manner in our Last petition, & finely abate us the Whole or such part of s^d taxes as your Honours shall see meet, as it is wholely out of our power to pay any part of it at present as an Instance an Execution is now served on the Collector of this town for a State Tax, which Collector Cannot collect near Half the money to pay it of with, money being Exceeding Scarce in this town, but for further purticulars Refur you to Will^m Jones Esq. our Representative who will give you a trew Representation of our present Inability, after which, we pray your Honours to take our Situation into your Consideration once more and be pleased to Ease us of as Large a part of the above tax, as to your Honours shall seem meet, and your petitioners as in Duty Bound shall Ever pray &c

In Behalf of s^d Town

John Boy^d o^r Clerk

Bristol Sept^r 23. 1783.

William M ^c Intyer	}	Selectmen of Bristol
Henry Hunter		

Petition Josiah Waters Jr.

To the Honorable the Senate and the Honorable the House
of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachu-
setts in General Court Assembled in Boston —

Humbly Shews, the Petition of Josiah Waters jun^r in
Behalf of the Owners of the Private Ship of war the General
Putnam.—

The Ship of War General Putnam was built in 1777 at
New London by Nathaniel Shaw Esq^r for the Sole purpose
of a Cruizing Ship, and no cost or pains was wanting to
compleat her for the Business, and by means of unfavorable
Winds the said Ship put into the Harbour of Boston on the
26th June 1779 at which time an Expedition was forming
against Penobscot and your Petitioner who was Agent for
the Owners (seven eighths of whom were Inhabitants of the
State of Connecticutt) was applied to for the said Ship to
proceed with others on the said expedition, and as he did
not conceive it to be his duty to consent, without first ob-
taining leave from the Owners; the said Ship was seized by
the Sheriff of the County of Suffolk who was fully authorized
for the purpose, to proceed on the said Expedition, and al-
though your petitioner was requested to join with the then
Board of War in nameing the Persons for the appraising
the said Ship, on his refusal for the reasons before mentioned,
they the said Board of War did appoint Captains Prince
Fleet, and Waldo to appraise the said Ship who accepted the
appointment and did approve the said Ship at Ten Thousand
Pounds Sterling but in as much as there was no Specie cir-
culating at that time they named the sum of One hundred and
Ten Thousand Pounds in the then paper Money supposing
it to be equal to the above mentioned sum of Ten thousand
Pounds Sterling but sometime after a Scale of depreciation
being fix'd the aforementioned sum of One hundred & Ten

thousand Pounds in paper money at which the said ship was appraised Amounted to no more by the said Scale than about Seven Thousand Pounds Lawful money In consequence of which several Petitions from your Petitioner and the Owners of the said Ship have been before the former The Honorable General Court, and through the multiplicity of Business nothing has yet been finally determined upon.

Your petitioner therefore now prays this Honorable Court, to take the matter into their wise consideration and appoint a Committee to enquire into the truth of the above representation in order to the owners receiving the Sum that the said Ship was intended to be appraised at with Interest from the time it became due.—

Confiding in the Justice and Integrity of the Honorable Legislature, and not doubting of a speedy completion of this Business. will as in duty bound ever pray.—

Josiah Waters Jun^r

Boston September 24. 1783

Action on Foregoing Petition.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives October 18, 1783

On the petition of Josiah Waters J^r in behalf of the owners of the ship Putnam.

Resolved that the Prayer of the Petition be granted and the Treasurer is hereby Directed and Impowered to give to the owners of the said Ship Putnam; his Securities in behalf of this Commonwealth for the sum of their ten thousand three hundred thirty three Pounds Six Shillings and Eight pence (Including what may have been Paid if any) together with Interest from the time it was due: as full Compensation for said ship Appurtenances and stores.

Petition William Lermond.

To the Honorable Senante and house of Representatives of
the Comon wealth of masachusetts

The petion of William Lermond of the town of warran in
the County of Lincoln Humbly Sheweth that whereas apart
of my Land is Divided By thomas town Line to the Great
Disadvantage of your petitioner: and your petitioner Begs your
Honours would anex that part of my Land which Lieth in
Thomastown to the town of Warren Being twenty one Rods
in width the Line Runing from S^t Georges River North,
thirty two Degrees East two miles and a half to a Stake and
Stones from thence Runing West thirty two Degrees North
to town Line twenty one Rods And your petitioner as in Duty
Bound Shall Ever pray

William Lermond

Warren Septem^{br} 29th 1783

Memorial Town of Bowdoinham.

To the Hon.— Senate & house of Representatives in General
Cort Assembled;

The Memorial of y^e town of Bowdoinham Humbly Sheweth;
that by an Act passed the present year 1783 for Apportion-
ing & Assessing a tax of two hundred thousand pounds To
defray y^e Expences of y^e Government; as sett forth in s^d
Act, & Whereas by s^d act the town of Bowdoinham is taxed y^e
Sum of £200 pounds for their proportion of s^d Sum afores^d
which Sum is Within £9 : 3 : 4 of what is assessed on y^e town
of Topsham a Circumstance which appears very Extraordi-
nary to yo^r memorialist Especially when they have been here-
tofore taxed but about one Third y^e Amount of s^d town &
their Comparative Ability to pay Not in y^e least Increased

than when they stood in that proportion It is true there is a considerable quantity of wild land together with A Number off Scattered Inhabitants lately Join^d to y^e town But y^e Miserable Situation of y^e Inhabitants being distitute of even y^e Common Necessaries of life renders it next to Impossible that they can pay any Taxes, & even if any thing could be obtained of them, y^e expences & Difficulty of Collecting it would be more than y^e Value of y^e Sum they could well pay But Such has been y^e wrong Information that Yo^r Hon^{rs} have receiv^d Concerning these settlers that yo^r Hon^{rs} have in Consequence of them thought proper to near Thribble Our proportion of tax this present year which we humbly presume your Hon^{rs} will rectifye; as to y^e Inhabitants of that large quantity of land Yo^r Hon^{rs} have Anext to Bowdoinham; their is not above three or four Excepting those few that have bought of Esq^r Bowdoin that owns one foot of land.—It is true there is a larg number of polls But we beg you Would Consider Candedly what Value to put Upon them;—What we desire is that they may be taken again from us; or at least not to be a burden to us. Which we leav to your Wisdom And as to yo^r Hon^{rs} Takeing that Sum of Money off from y^e town of Harpswell & Laying on us; we Conclude You were Some way Misled for we cant think that y^e town of Harpswell was in y^e least y^e poorer for the few familys mooveing out off y^e town; as they left their farms to Others which is common in all towns Nor do we think y^e town of Bowdoinham in y^e least y^e Better As they did not Come into y^e town of Bowdoinham; But only Into y^e Adjacent parts were we had never tax^t a foot of land, When that money was laid on us. We shall take it as a favour If yo^r Hon^{rs} wou^d Inquire more particularly in to that affair & then do as in your Wisdom you Shall think meet.—Your memorialists Beg leave further to Represent that by the proportions for y^e three years & the three & five months men laid upon y^e town we

apprehend ther must be a mistake as the town of Topsham & y^e town of Bowdoinham are Apportioned near Alike. When y^e town of Bowdoinham Agreeable to y^e Order of Cort Rais^d two men, & y^e town of Topsham agreeable to y^e same Requisitions Raised Seven & Both towns gave alike price to their men. We therefore Humbly Beg Yo^r Hon^m to Rectifye it.

There is another article we would be glad to mention to yo^r Hon^m If we knew how. We hear by y^e bye that some orders are Isued to y^e several towns that did not Send in or Diliver their proportion of Beaf Called for some time since But we have not heard what y^e orders are & as we did not deliver y^e Beaf we Would acquaint you with y^e reason which is this We did not Receive any orders to Raise any Beaf til y^e time of y^e year for killing of Beaf was near over, However we Collected it But Could Not git any Body to receive it; though Several days were spent on that account. We leave all With yo^r Honour to do as You think meet, & as in Duty Bound Shall ever pray.

By order of y^e town

Abr^m Preble — town Clerk.

Bowdoinham October y^e 4: 1783

Petition Town of Bristol.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts }

In the House of Representatives Oct^r 22^d 1783

On the Petition of the town of Bristol and other towns to the Eastward of Sheepscutt in the County of Lincoln Praying for abatement of Taxes —

Resolved that the Prayers of the Petitioners be so far Granted that Solomon Lovell & Edward Russell Esq^r with such as the Hon^l Senate may joyn Be a Committee to Repair to the Several towns to the Eastward of Sheepscut and Veiw

thier Circumstances and Report at the Next Sitting of the General Court, at the Expence of the Petitioners, and the treasurer be Directed to stay Execution for their Beef tax the mean time.

Petition Selectmen of Berwick.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts To the Honourable Senate
& House of Representatives in Gen^l Court Assembled.

The Petition of the Select Men of Berwick in the County of York—Humbly Sheweth that their is in this Town an aged woman by the name of Elizabeth Hart that has become a Town Charge notwithstanding she has a right to the thirds of her late Husbands Joseph Harts Estate dec^d which is about 16 Acres of poor land, that lies waste, and she is become helpless, her Children & Grand Children refuse to support her, (some of which are minors) We therefore pray your Honours to Grant Liberty, that the Land aforesaid may be sold so that she may be supported out of the proceeds, which we conceive to be the best way she can be supported or Reliev'd in her advanced age & helpless state—as your Honours in your Wisdom may think best and as in Duty bound will ever pray

Rich ^d Fox	} Select Men of Berwick
"Cutts	
Thomas Downs	
William Hall	

Berwick Oct^r 4th 1783

Petition Settlers on Saco River.

To the Honorable, the General Court of Massachusetts

The Petition of the Subscribers, Settlers on Saco River humbly sheweth.—That there is a Jam of Timber & other

drift Stuff across Saco River in Fryeburg one Hundred — Rods in Length, which obstructs the Passage of the Water & occasions it to lay so long on the Intival Land in the Spring as to prevent many of the Inhabitants from putting their Seed in the Ground in proper Season; That it has extended up the River Sixty — Rods within Ten Years last past; That all the drift Stuff which comes down the River for more than Sixty Miles above, stops there which must (if not removed) in Time prove the Destruction of a considerable part of the Property of the Town; that the Upland in general is very poor, consequently the Inhabitants will be unable to pay his Taxes, & if prevented from being so useful to the Publick as might be expected; That there is a great Quantity of Timber in the State of Newhampshire, as well as this Commonwealth which might be turned into the River if the jam was removed, to the Advantage of the Inhabitants, and as it would go to the Mills at Biddeford & Pepperellborough would advance the Trade of this Commonwealth; That the Great Falls damages the Timber & often detains a great part of it from going down the River for a Year or Two, which might be prevented by blowing the Rocks & digging of them, That the Inhabitants are unable to accomplish those Purposes, & as the Publick would receive considerable Advantages from a Removal of those Obstructions, your Petitioners flatter themselves, that your Honors will be ready to afford some assistance for this Purpose, by way of Lottery; Therefore they humbly pray that your Honors would take the Matter into your wise Consideration & grant Liberty for a Lottery, to raise a Sum of Money to be appropriated for the Purposes above mentioned & as in Duty bound shall ever pray —

Richard Eastman,	Samuel Murry,	George Bean,
Daniel Farington,	Moses Ames,	Simeon Hutchinge,
Ezra Carter,	Aaron Abbot,	Wright + Allen,

Ezekiel Walker,	Ebenes ^r Day,	Vere Boyse,
Noar Eastman,	Stephen Knight,	Isac Walker,
Richard Kimball,	James Parker,	Sam ^l Walker,
Joseph Emery,	Benj ⁿ Killgore,	James Osgood,
Nath ^l Merrill,	Isaac Abbot,	Benj Osgood,
John Walker,	H. Y. Brown,	Joseph G Swan,
John Farington,	Pearson Huntriss,	John Dollif,
Moses Day,	Josh B. Osgood,	Josiah Dollif,
Abraham Bradley,	John Haley,	John Barker.

John Walker Jun^r Daniel Emerson Cross
Brownfield October 6th 1783.

The Committee appointed upon the Petition of a Number of the Inhabitants of Brownfield praying for a Lottery for the purpose of removing a jam of Timber &c across Saco River, Report that a Bill be brought in for the purpose of raising a sum of Money by way of a Lottery for the purpose asked for —

Petition Josiah Brewer.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts To the Honorable the
Senate & the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives for said
Commonwealth in General Court Assembled

October 17, 1783.

The Petition of Josiah Brewer of Winslow, in the County of Lincoln, Esq. humbly sheweth, That on the twenty seventh day of September N. O. one thousand seven hundred and seventy nine, your Petitioner was appointed Truck-Master at Fort Hallifax on Kennebeck River, and has continued in that office and to trade with and supply the Indians in Behalf of the Commonwealth till the Eighteenth Day of March last— That your Petitioner during the whole Time aforesaid was constantly engaged and spent his whole Time in that Busi-

ness and in delivering out Rations to the Indians, and was often obliged to hire Assistance, & to procure Sentries at his own Expence to keep the Indians in Subjection & to prevent their rushing into the Store — And has been at great Trouble and expence in conducting & managing the Business afores^d notwithstanding which, your Petitioner has never yet received any Compensation for his Services aforesaid — Wherefore he prays that his Account (hereto annexed) for his said Services, as also the Sum of Twenty one pounds which he paid one Timothy Hudson for taking Care of the Truck House and trading with the Indians, while your Petitioner was gone to Rhode-Island with five Indian Chiefs to see the French Army & to have a Conference with the French General by Order of the Council, may be allowed him; and your Petitioner as in Duty bound &c

Josiah Brewer

Account Josiah Brewer.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts To Josiah Brewer D^r

To My Service as Truckmaster at Fort Hallifax from the 27th day of Sept^r 1779. To the 18 day of March 1783 being 45 Months and 7 days @ £12- p^r Month — Is — £540

1780 — To Cash paid Timothy Hudson by Receipt for Taking Care of the Truck house, and doing the Business thereof While I was gone to Rhoad Island With five Indian Chiefs To View the French Army, and to have a Conference with the French General as p^r Order of Council 70 days @ 6/- Total £561.. —

Errors Excepted —

Mem^o Josiah Brewer

Boston Octo^r 31st 1783 —

Never hearing of any Dismission from y^e 17th Oct^o by resolve but Continued till the 18th day of March following

doing duty as usual untill there was an Order from the Commissary General to deliver up what stores there was remaining On hand. Which I did to the Amount of Two Hundred pounds Lawful money which he did on said 18th day of March w^{ch} he has a right to be allowed for as pay

Josiah Brewer

Action on Petition William Lermond.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Oct^r 18, 1783

On the petition of William Lermond praying that his land (which is divided by the line running between Thomas Town and Warren) may be so far altered as that the whole of his land may be annex'd to the Town of Warren Ordered that the petitioner William Lermond notify the Inhabitants of the town of Thomas Town to appear and shew cause if any they have why the prayer of said petition should not be granted on the second tuesday of the next sitting of this Court, by serving the Town clerk of the said Thomas Town with a copy of his petition and this order of court—thereon, thirty days at least before the said second tuesday

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

In Senate Oct^r 18th 1783

Read and Concurred

S Adams Presid^t

An Act Relating to Titles.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty three

An Act for inquiring into the Title and taking care of the Land of the Commonwealth within the late Province of Main

Whereas there is a Vast tract of Territory Extending from the mouth of the River Piscataqua on the Sea Shore to the River Saint Croix and from the sea extending back Northerly & North-Westerly to the Line of the British Province of Canada or quebec and bounded Easterly on the Province of Nova Scotia, and Westerly & Southwesterly on the State of New Hampshire which Territory excepting such small parts thereof as before the Year one Thousand six hundred and ninety two were granted to other Persons than to this Government by the Crown of great Britain or since that Time by this Government under the Title of the Province of Massachusetts Bay is now the real property of this Commonwealth and it being necessary that proper attention should be paid to the same that it may be a source for raising money to be employed in discharge of the Debts' accumulated by the late war

Be it therefore Enacted by the Senate and house of Representatives in general Court assembled and by the authority of the same that if any person shall Cut down fell destroy or carry any tree within the Limits aforesaid standing or growing on the land of this Commonwealth such person shall forfeit and pay to the Use of the said Commonwealth the sum of Forty Shillings for every tree of the bigness of one foot diameter and half that Sum for every tree of Lesser dimensions and that any person who shall carry off any wood or underwood from the Land of the Commonwealth within the Limits aforesaid shall forfeit and pay to the use of the Commonwealth three times the value of such wood or under wood

Provided that nothing in this Act Shall Extend to Lessen the penalty for Cutting pine trees as provided by an Act passed this present Session

and be it further enacted that Three Commissioners be appointed by joint ballot of both Houses to Superintend the Same Lands belonging to the State within the Limits aforesaid, and they are also empowered to bring an action or Actions against any person or persons for Cutting any tree or trees or carrying off any wood or underwood as aforesaid on the Land of the Commonwealth before described and by an Action of Trespass brought in their names as agents to the Commonwealth & to the use of the same to recover the penalty provided by this Act against any person or persons who shall Trespass the same Lands as aforesaid

and the said Commissioners are also hereby empowered to bring any Action of Ejectment or other real action in their Capacity aforesaid to recover for the use of the said Commonwealth any Tract of Land within the Limits aforesaid not granted to private persons as aforesaid

And it is also Enacted that if either of the agents aforesaid shall resign or shall die the right of prosecuting any Action then pending in their names shall Survive to the others. and those persons who shall be from time to time appointed by the General Court on the said Committee shall have the same powers as those named in this Act.

Provided nevertheless that if the said Agents shall bring any Action for the Recovery of Land without the orders of the Legislature they shall bear the expence thereof themselves

And it is also Enacted that the said Committee shall have authority to appear by an Attorney appointed in the same manner as other persons may appear by Attorney, and shall as soon as may be procure and lay before the General Court a Plan of the Territory aforesaid from some of the best plans now Extant of the same and shall delineate thereon from Time to time the real Property of Private persons within the said Territory,

And the Said Committee shall also have full power to

Enter in behalf of the Commonwealth upon any Land within the Limits afores^d belonging to the same, and to lease the same for any Term not exceeding three years

Provided that no lease by them made Shall Justify the Cutting of any Trees on the Land Leased or to be abar to the penalty provided in this Act for Trespassing on the Land of the Government —

And the said Committee Shall as soon as may be State to the General Court the Several Claims of Individuals within the Territory aforesaid, the proper Extent of such Claims, the quantity Claimed distinguishing the Legal Claims from those to which the persons claiming Pretend

In the House of Representatives Oct^r 23^d 1783

This Bill having had three several Readings passed to be Engrossed

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

In Senate Oct 24, 1783

Read the first time

Further Resolve Relating to Foregoing.

Oct^r 28th 1783

Whereas the Committee who were appointed by a Resolve of the General Court of May first 1781 for examining into all Trespasses and illegal entries on the unappropriated Lands belonging to this Commonwealth cannot execute the business that may arise in all the Eastern Countries with necessary dispatch — It is the opinion of your Committee that the last mentioned Committee be excused from attending to any concerns that may fall within their Commission in the County of Lincoln and that a Committee be appointed specially for the said County of Lincoln to do and execute all that in the said County which the Committee appointed

by the Resolve aforesaid were impowered to do and execute in the said County of Lincoln —

Resolved that the Committee appointed by a Resolve of the General Court of May the first 1781 for examining into all Trespasses and illegal Entries on the unappropriated Lands belonging to this Commonwealth be enjoined to compleat without delay in the Counties of York and Cumberland the business assigned them by said Resolve and one other Resolve of June the eleventh 1783 — and the said Committee be and they are hereby directed to lay out one or more Townships in the County of Cumberland if they shall judge it expedient and make Report of the same at the next sessions of the General Court

Resolved that the aforesaid Committee be and they are hereby discharged of any further execution of their Commission in the said County of Lincoln and no further —

Resolved that a Committee to consist of three Persons be appointed for the purpose of doing and executing all that in the said County

Thomas Mifflin to Governor in re Treaty of Paris.

Philadelphia November 23rd 1783

Sir

I have the honor to inform you, that M^r Thaxter, private Secretary to M^r Adams, arrived last night from France; being dispatched by our Ministers at paris, with the definitive Treaty between America and Great Britain; which was signed on the third day of September —

I beg leave to congratulate your Excellency on this great event & remain with much respect & Esteem

Your Excellency's ob^t hble Serv^t

Thomas Mifflin

His Excellency The Governor of Massachusetts

*Affidavits.*Warren December 8th 1783

We John Willie and John Watson of Lawful age Testify
And say that on this Eight Day of December We Saw William Lermond of Warren Serve the acting town Clerk (the Regular Chosen Clerk being at Sea) with a Copy a petition and order of Court for having his Land Lying in Thomas town Annexed to Warren

John Willie, John Watson

Warren December the 8 1783

Then the above Named John Willie and John Watson personally appeared and made oath to above Deposition by taken and subscribed

Before me

Patrick Pepble Just. of Peace

Certificate in Favor Joseph Marquand.

Boston Septem. 24, 1783

This Certifies,

That the sum of One thousand five hundred & thirty eight Pounds, five shillings & seven pence, including Interest, is due to Mr. Joseph Marquand, for the Balance of his three sixteenth parts of the armed Ship Monmouth lost on the Expedition to Penobscott in the year 1779 — which Sum when paid will be in full for the same — £1538. 5. 7

Thomas Ivers	}	Com ^{tee} for Audit ^g the Acc ^{ts}
Peter Roe Dalton		
		of the late Board of War

In Council Sept^r 25th 1783.

R^d & Advised that a W^t be drawn on the Treasury in full of the above Certificate agreeable to Resolve of 28th Jan^r 1782.

John Avery Sec^y

His Excellency the Governor & the Hon. the Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts —

*Certificate in Favor Ezekiel Tarbox.*Boston Sept^r 25. 1783

This Certifies

That the Sum of Fifteen Pounds, seven shillings & two pence, including Interest, is due to Ezekiel Tarbox, for his service as Master of the Schooner Nancy, a Transport lost on the Expedition to Penobscott in the year 1779 which sum when paid will be in full — £15.7.2

Thomas Ivers	{	Com ^{tee} for Audit ^s the Acc ^{ts} of the late Board of War
Peter Roe Dalton		

In Council Sept 27th 1783

Advised that a W^t be drawn on the Treasury to Discharge this Certificate

John Avery Sec^y

His Excellency the Governor & the Hon^{ble} the Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

*Certificate in Favor Elias Haskell Derby.*Boston October 1st 1783

This Certifies

That the Sum of Five hundred & fifty Six pounds, Nine Shillings, for ————— part of the Armed Ship Black prince, lost on the Expedition to Penobscott in the Year 1779. and One hundred & forty One pounds, Six Shillings, for Interest thereon Amounting to the Sum of Six Hundred & Ninety Seven pounds, fifteen shillings, is due to Elias Haskell Derby which when paid to Benj^a Goodhue Esq^r will be for the same — £697..15..0

Thomas Ivers	{	Commitee for Auditing the Accounts of the late Board of War.
Peter Roe Dalton		

His Excellency the Governor, and the Hon^{ble} the Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.—

In Council Oct^r 9 1783

Advised that a Warrant be drawn on the Treas^r in full Discharge of this Certificate

John Avery Secy

Certificate in Favor Elias H. Derby.

Boston Oct^o 6, 1783

This Certifies

That the sum of seven hundred & forty eight Pounds, sixteen shillings & four pence, for one fourteenth & one hundredth & thirty second parts of the arm'd ship Hector, lost on the Expedⁿ to Penobscott in the year 1779, and one hundred & ninety pounds, six shillings & four pence for Interest thereon to the first Ins^t amounting to the sum of Nine hundred & thirty nine pounds two shillings & eight pence, is due to Elias H. Derby, which when paid to Benj^a Goodhue Esq^r will be in full for the same — £ 939 . 2 . 8

Thomas Ivers	}	Com ^{tee} for Aud ^s the Acc ^{ts} of the late Board of War
Peter Roe Dalton		

His Excell^y the Governor & the Hon. the Council of the Commonwth of Mass^{ts}

In Council Oct 9 1783

Advised that a Warrant be drawn on the Treasury in full of this Certificate —

John Avery Sec^r

Certificate in Favor Elias Haskell Derby.

Boston October 1st 1783

This Certifies

That the Sum of Two thousand and Thirty One pounds three Shillings for ——— part of the Armed Brig^r Defence Lost on the Expedition to Penobscott in the year 1779,

and Five hundred and Sixteen pounds, five Shillings for Interest thereon Amounting to the sum of Two thousand, Five hundred & Forty seven pounds, Eight shillings is due to Elias Haskell Derby — which when paid to Benj^a Goodue Esq. will be in full for the same.—£2547.. 8.. 0

Thomas Ivers	}	Committee for Auditing the Accounts of the late Board of War.
Peter Roe Dalton		

His Excellency the Governor, & the Hon^{ble} the Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In Council Oct^r 9, 1783.

Advised That a Warrant be drawn on the Treas^r in full of this Certificate

John Avery Secy.

Certificate in Favor Jon^a Gardner 3rd.

Boston October 1st 1783

This Certifies

That the Sum of One hundred, & sixty three pounds, four shillings, for ————— part of the Armed Ship Black Prince, lost on the Expedition to Penobscott in the year 1779. & Forty One pounds Nine shillings and Two pence, for Interest thereon Amounting to the Sum of Two hundred, and four pounds, thirteen shillings, and Two pence, is due to Jon^a Gardner 3^d which when paid to Benj^a Goodhue Esq. will be in full for the same £204.. 13.. 2

Peter Roe Dalton	}	Committee for Auditing the Accounts of the late Board of War.
Thomas Ivers		

His Excellency the Governor, and the Hon^{ble} the Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Council Oct^r 9 1783

Advised that a Warrant be drawn on the Treasury in full
Discharge of this Certificate

John Avery Sec^y

Certificate in Favor Elias Haskell Derby.

Boston Oct^r 1st 1783

This Certifies

That the Sum of Three thousand, Five hundred, and thirty three pounds, Six shillings, and three pence for _____ part of the Armed Ship Hunter lost on the Expedition to Penobscott in the Year 1779, and Eight hundred & Ninety Eight pounds, and Eleven pence, for Interest thereon Amounting to the Sum of Four thousand, Four hundred, & thirty One pounds, Seven Shillings and Two pence, is due to Elias Haskell Derby which when paid to Benj^a Goodhue will be in full for the same. £4431..7..2

Thomas Ivers } Committee for Auditing

Peter Roe Dalton } Accounts of the Late Board of War

His Excellency the Governor, and the Hon^{ble} the Council
of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In Council Oct^r 9 1783

Advised that a Warrant be drawn on the Treasury in full
Discharge of this Certificate

John Avery Sec^y

Certificate in Favor Elias H. Derby.

Boston October 1st 1783

This Certifies

That the Sum of Four hundred, & thirty four pounds, Nineteen Shillings, for _____ part of the Armed Ship Black Prince, lost on the Expedition to Penobscott in the

Year 1779, and One hundred & Ten pounds, Eleven Shillings & Ten pence, for Interest thereon Amounting to the sum Five hundred, and forty five pounds, Ten shillings, and Ten pence, is due to Elias H Derby which when paid to Benj^a Goodhue Esq. will be in full for the same. £545 .. 10 .. 10

Thomas Ivers	}	Committee for Auditing the Accounts of the late Board of War
Peter Roe Dalton		

His Excellency the Governor, and Hon^{ble} the Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In Council Oct^r 9 1783

Advised that a Warrant be drawn on the Treasury in full of the above Certificate

John Avery Secy

Certificate in Favor Stephen Higginson.

Boston Octo 9. 1783.

This Certifies

That the sum of Three hundred & twenty six pounds, four shillings, for part of the arm'd ship Black prince lost on the Expedition to Penobscot in the year 1779 — and eighty two pounds, eighteen shillings & two pence for Interest due thereon to the first Instant, both sums amounting to Four hundred & nine pounds, two shillings & two pence, is due Stephen Higginson Esq. which when paid to George Williams Esq will be in full for the same — £409 . 2 . 2

Thomas Ivers	}	Com ^{tee} for Audit ^s the Acc ^{ts} of the late Board of War
Peter Roe Dalton		

His Excellency the Governor, & the Hon. the Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In Council Oct^r 13th 1783

Advised that a Warrant be drawn on the Treasury in full Discharge of this Certificate

John Avery Sec^r

*Certificate Tristram Dalton.*Boston 1st October 1783 —

This Certifies,

That the sum of Eight hundred & forty six Pounds, six shillings & two pence, for one eighth part of the Arm'd Ship Monmouth, lost on the Expedition to Penobscot in the year 1779 — and two hundred & fifteen Pounds, two shillings & one penny for Interest thereon — amounting to the sum of One thousand & sixty one Pounds, eight shillings & three pence is due to the Hon. Tristram Dalton Esq^r which when paid will be in full for the same £1061. 8. 3

Thomas Ivers	}	Com ^{tes} for Auditing the A/c ^{ts} of the late Board of War.
Peter Roe Dalton		

His Excellency the Governor, & the Hon. the Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In Council Oct^r 13. 1783

Advised that a Warrant be drawn on the Treasury in full Discharge of this Certificate

John Avery Sec^r*Certificate in Favor Joseph Barrell.*

Boston Septem. 26. 1783.

This Certifies,

That the sum of Six hundred & thirty four Pounds, fourteen shillings & nine pence, for three thirty-second parts of the Arm'd ship Vengeance, lost on the Expedition to Penobscott in the year 1779. & one hundred & fifty eight Pounds, thirteen shillings & three pence, for Interest thereon — amounting to Seven hundred & ninety three Pounds eight

shillings—is due to Joseph Barrell, which sum when paid will be in full for the same—£793. 8

Thomas Ivers	}	Com ^{tee} for auditing the
Peter Roe Dalton		Acc ^{ts} of the late Board of War

His Excellency the Governor, & the Hon. the Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In Council Oct^r 13th 1783

Advised that a Warrant be drawn on the Treasury in full Discharge of this Certificate—

John Avery Sec^y

Certificate in Favor Benjamin Lovett Jr.

Boston Octo 9. 1783

This Certifies

That the sum of Three hundred & twenty six pounds, four shillings, for part of the Arm'd ship Black-prince, lost on the Expedition to Penobscot in the year 1779—and eighty two pounds, eighteen shillings & two pence, for Interest due thereon to the first Instant both sums amounting to four hundred & nine pounds, two shillings & two pence, is due to Benjamin Lovett Jun^r which when paid to George Williams Esq^r will be in full for the same—£409. 2. 2

Thomas Ivers	}	Com ^{tee} for Audit ^s the Acc ^{ts}
Peter Roe Dalton		of the late Board of War

His Excell^y the Governor & the Hon. the Council of the Commonwth of Massachusetts—

In Council Oct^r 13th 1783

Advised that a Warrant be drawn on the Treasury in full Discharge of this Certificate—

John Avery Sec^y

Certificate in Favor George Cabot.

Boston Octo. 9. 1783

This Certifies

That the sum of One hundred & sixty three Pounds, two shillings, for part of the Arm'd ship Black Prince lost on the Expedition to Penobscott in the year 1779. and forty one pounds, nine shillings & one penny for Interest thereon to the first Instant, both sums amounting to Two hundred & four pounds eleven shillings & two pence, is due to George Cabot which when paid to George Williams Esq^r will be in full for the same—£204.. 11. 12

Thomas Ivers	{	Com ^{tes} for Audit ^s the Acco ^{ts} of the late Board of War.
Peter Roe Dalton		

His Excellency the Governor & the Hon the Council of the
Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In Council Oct^r 13th 1783

Advised that a Warrant be drawn on the Treas^r in full
Discharge of this Certificate

John Avery Sec^r*Certificate in Favor John Lovett.*

Boston Octo 9, 1783

This Certifies

That the sum of Two hundred & seventeen pounds, nine shillings & four pence, for part of the Ship Black prince, lost on the Expedition to Penobscott in the year 1779. and Fifty-five pounds, five shillings & five pence for Interest due thereon to the first Instant, both sums amounting to Two hundred & seventy two pounds, fourteen shillings & nine

pence, is due to John Lovett, which when paid to George Williams Esq^r will be in full for the same—£272.14.9

Thomas Ivers	}	Acc ^{ts} of the late Board of War.
Peter Roe Dalton		Com ^{tee} for auditing the

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

His Excellency the Governor, & the Hon. the Council of the

In Council Oct^r 13th 1783

Advised that a Warrant be drawn on the Treasury in full Discharge of this Certificate—

John Avery Sec^r

Certificate in Favor John Gardner Jr.

Boston Octo. 9. 1783

This Certifies

That the sum of One hundred & twenty seven Pounds, one shilling & seven pence half penny, for part of the Arm'd ship Black prince, lost on Expedition to Penobscott in the year 1779, and thirty two Pounds, nine Shillings & eight pence half penny. for Interest thereon to the first Instant, both sums amounting to One hundred & fifty nine pounds, eleven shillings & four pence, is due to John Gardner Jun^r which when paid to George Williams Esq^r will be in full for the same—£159.11.4

Thomas Ivers	}	Com ^{tee} for Audit ^s the Acc ^{ts} of the late Board of War—
Peter Roe Dalton		

His Excellency the Governor & the Hon. the Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Council Oct^r 14th 1783

Advised that a Warrant be drawn on the Treas^r in full of this Certificate—

John Avery Sec^r

*Certificate in Favor Andrew Cabot.*Boston 6th Octo. 1783

This Certifies

That the sum of Three thousand, three hundred & eighty five Pounds, four shillings & nine pence, for one half of the Arm'd Brig^t Defence, appurt^d &^e lost on the Expedition to Penobscott in the year 1779 — and the sum of eight hundred & sixty Pounds, eight shillings & two pence, for Interest thereon to the first Instant, both sums amounting to Four thousand two hundred & forty five Pounds, twelve shillings & eleven pence, is due to Andrew Cabot Esq. which when paid will be in full for the same — £4245 . 12 . 11

Thomas Ivers	}	Com ^{tee} for auditing the Acco ^{ts} of the late Board of War
Peter Roe Dalton		

His Excellency the Governor & the Hon. the Council of the
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Council Oct^r 14 1783

Advised that a Warrant be drawn on the Treasury in full
Discharge of this Certificate. John Avery Sec^y

Certificate in Favor Jonathan Peele.

Boston 14 Octo. 1783

This Certifies

That the sum of Five hundred & thirty one Pounds eleven shillings & five pence, is due to Joseph Sprague, for the Balance due to him, for his eleventh part of the arm'd Ship Hector, lost on the Expedition to Penobscott in the year 1779. which sum when paid to Jonathan Peele will be in full for the same — £531 . 11 . 5

Thomas Ivers	}	the A/c ^{ts} of the late Board of War. Com ^{tee} for Audit ^s
Peter Roe Dalton		

His Excellency the Governor & the Hon. the Council of the
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Council 21st October 1783

Advised that a Warrant be drawn on the Treasury in full Discharge of this Certificate—

John Avery Sec^y

Observations on Public Men.

General Washington.

Soon the Protector of America. A deep endless ambition, too thinly veiled to escape the penetration of some of those who saw him constantly in the various scenes of this Revolution, who saw him behind the Couliese, as well as upon the Stage, makes the basis of the character of this man, who has forever inscribed his name in the annals of the world; great, not by shining talents, but by a happy concurrence of circumstances, a good useful understanding, an unwearied passive perseverance, the mediocrity of all his competitors, & the . . . or . . . of his antagonists. Genius it seems is not the growth of this western world, & even when imported droops and dies under this unfavorable Sky: May this be as it will, Genius it seems was not the lot of Washington. Without a spark of imagination, enthusiasm or that torrent of talent that carries everything before it, cold, deliberate, slow, patient, persevering, he now finds himself elevated to a pitch of grandeur he never dream'd of, and would not even now grasp at the supreme power, if, to obtain it, he must as Cromwell, surround the State House and tell them, "begone, the Lord you seek has left this place." But no such exertion will be requir'd. The nation is sick of Congress, they speak of them with the utmost contempt: Congress themselves are tired of their situation, the unpopularity of which they feel even in the Streets of Princeton, & which is neither lucrative, nor honorable, nor durable enough to attach them.

I know that they all expect, and that most of them wish a revolution.

This revolution is near at hand, but I do not venture to affirm that it will affect all America; there is an opposition to it in Congress (a weak one I believe in numbers and power, though not in abilities for I think Thompson is not at the head of it) besides, all the Eastern provinces oppose it, but their joint endeavours cannot entirely prevent it. The junto of Washington, Witherspoon, Marbois & the Cincinnati, besides the clear majority in Congress, & I am confident a majority of the people at large, will certainly carry the point. Congress.

Never was this Areopagus of America composed of men so little respectable either by their abilities, family, or fortune; they are so conscious of it themselves, that they retire from the Eye of the Traveller, to hide their weakness and poverty; but none of them seems more fearful to expose the mock Majesty of his public Character by a knowledge of his private one, than their President, Mr. Wilson it is generally thought will be nominated his Successor, but will not accept of it. His ostensible reason for declining this office is his business; but his real one perhaps, that he would lose his influence by becoming the Speaker of this Senate, that is to say the only man in it that never speaks at all. He is generally thought a French Pensioner, and Man of abilities.

Maryland is most likely to become the residence of Congress, as that State has made the largest offers. This certainly must be an object with men, half a dozen of whom used, even at Philadelphia, to live together with their Families, in a paltry boarding house. At Princeton they certainly will not remain. I heard the objection stated that Baltimore was too warm, but the answer was, "by the time the weather grows warm Congress will sit nowhere. The scene of this conversation was a Tavern.

Their High Mightinesses themselves acknowledge that they have no power at all, and that their situation is hard indeed, for being hated on account of their impotence. But they deny that the persecution of the loyalists springs from this fountain: The majority of Congress is for this cruel measure.

Dr. Witherspoon

An account of the present face of things in America, would be very defective indeed, if no mention was made of this political firebrand, who perhaps had not a less share in the revolution than Washington himself. He poisons the minds of his young Students, and through them the Continent. He is the intimate friend of the General, and had I no other arguments to support my ideas of Washington's designs, I think his intimacy with a man of so different a character from his own, (for Washington's private one is perfectly amiable) would justify my suspicions. The commencement was a favorable opportunity of conveying certain sentiments to the public at large (for even women were present) which it now becomes important to make them familiar with. This farce was evidently introductory of the Drama that is to follow.

The great maxim which this commencement was to establish, was the following, "A time may come in every Republic, and that may be the case with America, when Anarchy makes it the duty of the man who has the majority of the people with him, to take the helm into his own hands, in order to save his Country, and the person who opposes him deserves the utmost revenge of his nation, deserves - - - to be sent to Nova Scotia. Vox populi, vox dei."

These were the very words of the Moderator, who decided on the question, was Brutus justifiable in killing Cæsar? either they thought us all that heard them blockheads, or they were not afraid of avowing their designs. This was

plainer English still than the pactum confederationis of the Cincinnati.

When the young man, who with a great deal of passionate eloquence defended his favorite Brutus, extolled the virtue of the man who could stab even his Father when attempting the liberties of his Country, I thought I saw Washington's face clouded, he did not dare to look the Orator in the face, who stood just before him, but with downcast look seemed wishing to hide the impression, which a subject that touched him so near, had I thought very visibly made in his countenance. But we are so apt to read in the face what we supposes passes in the heart, may be that this was the case with me. But if ever what I suspect should happen, I shall think that moment one of the most interesting ones of my life. The orations of the younger boys were full of the coarsest invectives against British tyranny. I will do Mr. Witherspoon the justice to think, he was not the author of them, for they were too poor indeed; besides, they evidently conveyed different sentiments; there was one of them not unfavorable to liberal sentiments even towards Britons. But upon the whole it is but just to suppose that Witherspoon had read them all.

The Minister of France was not present tho' expected, but I have a right to think that all, or almost all the Members of Congress, and all the Cincinnati then in the neighbourhood assisted at this entertainment. The Cincinnati sat together en Corps.

The French Minister & French Gold.

Of all the men France could have chosen the most improper. One would think the Court of London had had the appointment of this French Minister, and that of Versailles the nomination of some of our . . . Even if Mr. de la Luzerne was possessed of all the abilities he wants (and then he would be a most able man indeed) his petty, national, and

nobility pride, and his former residence at the pragmatical Court of Mümicken, would have entirely disqualified him for his present Station. What do you think of the scavoir faire of a French Ambassador at Philadelphia, who remains an entire Stranger to many and has affronted all the members of Congress on account of a punctilio of etiquette; who invites the Americans to his house to entertain them there with the condescendance of a French Lord of the Manor who gives a feast to his tenants, who leaves the Supper table when the company are just seated to pay a visit at half after ten at Night, to the charming . . . and who by every look, word or action, tells the Inhabitants of America, Vous ete de la Canaille, et moi je suis Baron Francois.

This picture is not too high coloured, had you patience and I leisure I might finish it still higher; but this I think is sufficient.

Marbois, the soul of that Embassy, possesses every talent the other wants; that of pleasing excepted. You plainly see, the moment he enters the room that he passed his life at the Bar of Colmar; stiff, formal, cold, polite, grave, he puts everybody upon his guard, without being upon his own. A Frenchman is indiscreet because he is a Frenchman, but never more so than when the honor of his Nation is at Stake. Their grand aim was to prove that they had done all, and the Americans nothing. These they represented as an indolent, apathie, stupid, happy set of beings. If we believe them, the Sun spent all his genial influence in the East to form the fiery frenchman, before he reached this western Hemisphere. Incredible as this open contempt of the Nation they protect, seems to be, and impolitic as it is, to make it the common subject of their conversation at table yet I heard myself the maxim laid down there once, leurs femes sont des anges, et les hommes des betes.

All this the Americans know full well and gratefully re-

turn the Compliment. The French interest extends not an inch further than their Gold, who is not paid to speak well of them, detests them. The Father trembles for his daughter, and the Husband for his Wife; for such is the influence of French manners already, that both have some reason to tremble. Some say they dread French atheism, and it is their Religion they fear for. But the fact is they do not, for Religion they have none. But a more just and general complaint is, that French luxury, which begins to pervade all ranks of people, will ruin a poor Republic, whose exports are not one half of its imports; but this field is too wide, and I have already trespassed too long on your patience. Give me leave only to add one word more, & that is, that I am perfectly convinced that it would be very easy for a British Ambassador to ruin the French interest in this Country. I do not mean only . . . Send a man of a social turn who can stoop to conquer, but let this man be a man of rank, for pride is after all the bosom passion of the Americans. French stiffness and formality will be no match for British Hospitality, nor French Gold for good old Madeira Wine. If a Minister of this turn had an intelligent Secretary, Mons^r de la Luzerne would be undone.

In Sir Guy Carleton's

No. 114 — of the 13th Octo^r 1783.

Certificate in Favor John Fisk.

Boston October 14th 1783

This Certifies

That the sum of One hundred & sixty two pounds three Shillings, for my 48th part of the Armed Ship Hunter, lost on the Expedition to Penobscott in the year 1779. and Forty One pounds, four shillings & three pence for Interest thereon to y^e 1st Ins^t Amounting to the Sum of Two hundred & three

pounds, Seven shillings & three pence, is due to John Fisk which when paid will be in full for the same — £203 .. 7 .. 3

Thomas Ivers } Committee for Auditing the
Peter Roe Dalton } Acco^{ts} of the late Board of War.

His Excellency the Governor, & the Hon'ble the Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Council Oct^r 21. 1783

Read & Advised that a Warrant be drawn on the Treasury for £203 .. 7 .. 3 in full of this Certificate

Attest John Avery Sec^r

Certificate in Favor Jonathan Peele.

Boston October 14th 1783 ---

This Certifies

That the sum of One hundred & sixty two pounds, three shillings, for 48th part of the Armed Ship Hunter, lost on the Expedition to Penobscott in the year 1770. and Forty One pounds, four shillings & three pence for Interest thereon to the 1st Instant, Amounting to the Sum of Two hundred & three pounds, seven shillings & three pence, is due to Jonathan Peele, which when paid will be in full for the same. -- £203 .. 7 .. 3

Thomas Ivers } Committee for Audit^g the
Peter Roe Dalton } Acco^{ts} of the late Board of War.

His Excellency the Governor, & the Hon'ble the Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Council Oct^r 21. 1783

Advised that a Warrant be drawn on the Treas^r in full Discharge of this Certificate

John Avery Sec^r

*Certificate in Favor John Fisk.*Boston Oct^r 14th 1783

This Certifies

That the sum of One hundred & Eighty four pounds, Twelve shillings & seven pence for my part of the Armed Ship Hector, lost on the Expedition to Penobscott in the year 1779, and Forty Six pounds, Eighteen Shillings and five pence for Interest thereon to y^e 1st Instant. Amounting to the sum of Two hundred & thirty One pounds, Eleven shillings, is due to John Fisk, which when paid will be in full for the same. £231. 11 .. 0

Thomas Ivers	}	Commetee for Auditing the
Peter Roe Dalton		Accounts of the late Board of War

His Excellency the Governor, & the Hon^{ble} the Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Council October 21 1783

Advised that a Warrant be drawn on the Treas^r for £231 .. 11 .. 0 in full of this Certificate

John Avery Sec^y*Certificate in Favor John Gardner Jr.*Boston October 14th 1783

This Certifies,

That the sum of Eight hundred & Sixty One pounds, thirteen shillings & seven pence for my 1/11 part of the Armed Ship Hector, lost on the Expedition to Penobscott in the year 1779. and Two hundred & Nineteen pounds One shilling & Two pence for Interest thereon to 1st Instant, Amounting to the sum of One thousand & Eighty pounds, fourteen shillings

& Nine pence, is due to John Gardner Jun^r which when paid will be in full for the same—£1080 .. 14 .. 9

Thomas Ivers	}	Commetee for Auditing the Accounts of the late Board of War
Peter Roe Dalton		

His Excellency the Governor, & the Hon^{ble} the Council of
the Commonwealth of Massachusetts—

In Council Oct^r 21. 1783

Advised that a Warrant be drawn on the Treas^r in full
Discharge of this Certificate

John Avery Sec^r

Certificate in Favor William Nichols et al.

Boston October 15. 1783

This Certifies

That the sum of One thousand, six hundred & ninety two Pounds, twelve shillings & four pence, for one quarter part of the arm'd ship—Monmouth lost on the Expedition to Penobscott in the year 1779. and Four hundred & thirty pounds four shillings & four pence for Interest due thereon to the first Instant, both sums amounting to Two thousand, one hundred & twenty two Pounds, sixteen Shillings & six pence, is due to Mess^{rs} William Nichols & Samuel Batcheldor, which when paid will be in full for the same—£2212 . 16 . 6

Thomas Ivers	}	Com ^{tes} for Audit ^r the Acc ^{ts} of the late Board of War
Peter Roe Dalton		

His Excellency the Governor & the Hon. the Council of the
Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In Council Oct^r 21. 1783

Advised that a Warrant be drawn on the Treasury in full
Discharge of the within Certificate

John Avery Sec^r

Petition from Inhabitants of Gouldsborough and Other Places.

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and the Hon^{ble} the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in General Court assembled.—

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Machias, & others belonging to the Eastern part of the County of Lincoln.—
Humbly Sheweth.—

That by reason of the extensiveness of this County, we have a long time labour'd under many and great difficulties, which no other part of this State at present undergoes, & which, we presume, your honors have no Idea of; we therefore crave leave to make known our grievances, in hopes of obtaining relief.

We would in the first place inform your honors, that from Pownalborough, the Shire Town of this County, it is about 270 miles, as near as we can calculate, to the River S^t Croix at Passamaquaddy, the most extreme part of this County and Commonwealth; by reason of which great distance, we labor under the greatest difficulties upon many accounts; and in addition to those we formerly experienced, we have now to pass by a British Post, (viz^t Bagwaduice) which your honors may reasonably suppose, is attended with inconveniences not a few. Of the difficulties we experience we would mention the following. 1st By reason of the distance aforesaid many estates lay unsettled; Creditors are kept out of their just dues: Minors & orphans are unprovided of Guardians; and the heirs cannot obtain a just division of their shares, as it would take a small Estate to pay for Administration &c, if we must go to Pownalborough therefor.—

2^d By reason of the distance aforesaid, delinquents have gone unpunished, as it would in many cases ruin individuals to prosecute or to appear as witnesses, if they must attend at the established Courts.—

3^d By reason of the distance aforesaid, in suing to Pownalborough Court, the bills of cost many times surmount the debt: To mention one instance within our knowledge, the debt was forty two shillings and the Cost amounted to upwards of Ten pounds.—

4th We are at great charge and trouble even to get a Deed recorded, besides running the risque of being taken in passing Bagwaduice & losing the deeds, which has been the case.—

Wherefore we humbly pray, for the reasons aforesaid, that your honors would establish a special Judge of Probate of Wills & for granting Letters of Administration &c, & for appointing Guardians for Minors & Orphans; to have Jurisdiction to the Eastward of Penobscot River: Also to appoint a Register of Probate.—That a Court of Special Sessions of the peace be established, to have Cognizance to the eastward of Penobscot River as aforesaid.—

That two or more Justices be appointed to try causes to the amount of twenty pounds and under, with liberty of appeal; or, that a Court of Common pleas be established; to have jurisdiction as aforementioned.

That a Register of Deeds be appointed for said Eastern part of said County. And lastly, That one or more of the present Justices may be appointed of the Quorum; because there are divers cases wherein a single Justice alone, will not answer, as in taking Depositions in Perpetuam, & trying causes of forcible entry.—

Should your Honors think proper to indulge us in our requests, we would beg leave to say further, that the Plantation of Machias, is the best situated on many accounts, for the holding said Courts &c; and we pray that they may be established at said place as aforesaid: All which would have the utmost tendency to promote peace, harmony & good order; Justice would be duly administered, and the oppressed find relief.

And your petitioners as in duty bound, will ever pray &c
October 22^d 1782

David Gardner Daniel Stone, Solomon Stone, Aaron Hanscom, Stephen Jones, Joel Whitney Nathan Longfellow, W^m Albee, J Noble Shannon Morris O'Brien George Stillman Amos Boynton George Luey David Longfellow, Joseph Walles, Jonas Farnsworth Stephen Smith W^m Tupper, David Gardner Jun^r Peter Talbot, Benj^a Foster John Foster, Levi Foster, Woorden Foster, Stephen Munson Samuel Rich, Joseph Manson.

Petition from Inhabitants of Machias.

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate, and the Hon^{ble} the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts—

A number of the Inhabitants of Machias, and others belonging to the Eastern part of the County of Lincoln, Humbly Sheweth,

That whereas we are informed, a Petition from a number of the Inhabitants of this place and the vicinity, has lately been preferred to your Honors, praying, (for reasons therein mentioned) that a Court of Probate, a Register of Deeds, a Court of Common pleas & Sessions may be established at Machias; to have Jurisdiction to the Eastward of Penobscot River. As we had not opportunity of seeing said Petition before it was sent away, and being now fully acquainted with the contents thereof, and having for a long time suffered many and great inconveniences from the want of such arrangements higher than Pownalborough; we pray your honors that the prayer of said Petition may be granted, with this addition, that appeals may be had from the Court of Common pleas, to the Supreme Judicial Court in Boston, (as was usual, from the County of Nantucket) instead of Falmouth; as we could attend at the former place with greater ease and

convenience than at the latter — And as in duty bound your petitioners will Ever pray &c —

Machias December 18th 1782

Joseph Libbee, Eph^m Chase, M^r Howe Alpheus Polley, Jonathan Pineo, John Berry, William Elwell, William Ray, Joseph Waller J^r, Ja^s Campbell, Benj^a Pettigrow, Edmund Stevens.

In Senate June 12th 1783

Read & thereupon Order'd, that this Petition be committed to the Committee of both Houses appointed the 30th May Ult::; to take into consideration the Petition of David Gardner & others, Inhabitants of Machias, to consider and report what is proper to be done thereon

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In House of Representatives June 13th 1783

Read & concurred

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Memorial of the Machias Committee.

To the Hon^{ble} Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Memorial of the Committee Corrispd^e Inspection & Safety of Machias for & in behalf of said Plantation

Humbly Sheweth

That some time past a number of the Inhabitants of this District & the others adjacent, Petitioned the Hon^{ble} Court Seting fourth the Distresses the Inhabitants were under by reason of the distance they were from the Shiere Town in this County and expence & dificulty attending thereon & requesting a Court of Common pleas, a Judge of Probate & Register of Deeds might be appointed to be held in this place the Hon^{ble} Court at that time thought it best to refer

it over to the present session, at the same time Gave encouragement that relief should be Granted, The Inhabitants of this district had a legal & full meeting the 23^d of May last at which time the matter was again taken into Consideration, when the Town Unanimously Voted To Memorialize the Honble General Court on the Subject Requesting in the most earnest manner To Grant them Relief & directed the Committee of Corrispondence Inspection & Safety to do it, Your memorialist therefore Humbly prays the Hon^{ble} Court will be pleased To take the foregoing with their former petition into their wise Consideration & Grant them such Relief as they in their wisdom may think Fit. Your Memorialist for a more full State of these matters beg leave to Refer your Honors to James Avery Esq^r agent for this plantation and your memorialist as in duty Bound &c

Stephen Smith, Joseph Libbee }

Benj Foster, Morris O'Brien { Comm^{tees}

Machias June 2^d 1783

In Senate Sept 27th 1783

Read & thereupon Order'd that Cotton Tufts Esq^r with such as the Hon^{ble} House shall join be a Committee to take this Memorial into consideration, together with the Petition of the Inhabitants of Machias, and others belonging to the Eastern part of the County of Lincoln—and Report what may be proper to be done thereon—

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams, Presid^t

In the House of Representatives same day

Read & concurred & M^r Eddy & M^r Hosmer are joined

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

To James Avery Esq^r

Sir

You being appointed by the Inhabitants of Machias to Appear at the General Court of this Commonwealth to sup-

port the petitions from the Inhabitants of that and other Plantations respecting the Establishing Courts of Law & a Registor of Deeds &c in this part of the County so that we may have a more easey & less expences in access to Justice, we whose names are hereunto Subscribed Inhabitants of the different Plantations Sett against our Respective Names do Request you to appear in our behalf & use your influence that the said Petitions may be granted

Robert Ash	}	of Cobscook
Daniel Lee		pasmequady

henry Bowen of Moose Island Passamaquaday

Josiah Weston	}	of Chandlors River
Reuben Libbee		

Joel Whitnay	}	of Chandlors River
Stephen Hall		

*Report of the Committee on the Petition of Inhabitants of
Machias and Resolve Thereon.*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Committee of both Houses to whom was referred the Consideration of several Petitions from the Inhabitants of Machias & others in the Eastern part of the County of Lincoln, praying that a Register of Deeds & of Probate of Wills may be Established at Machias and that a Court of Probate of Wills, a Court of General Sessions of the peace & Court of Common pleas may be held at Machias with a right of appeal from the Court of General sessions of the peace & Court of Common pleas to the Supreme Judicial Court held at Boston, beg leave to report—

That in the Opinion of your Committee the peculiar difficulties under which the Petitioners labour for want of an easier and less expensive access to the Court of Law and

Justice render it highly reasonable that their request be so far granted that a Register of Probate of Wills & of Deeds be Established at Machias to exercise their respective Offices in that part of the County of Lincoln which is to the Eastward of Union River, That the Judges of Probate of Wills for the County of Lincoln be directed to hold his Court twice every year at Machias and that the Court of General Sessions of the Peace and Court of Common pleas for the said County should hold one Term every Year at said Machias and that Jurors for the two last mentioned Courts be summoned from the Freeholders and other Inhabitants by Law qualified for that service w^{ch} are to the Eastward of said Union River, and that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill for the purposes afore-mentiond —

Cotton Tufts p^r Order

In Senate October 17th 1783

Read and accepted

And Whereas several Petitions from the Inhabitants of Machias & others have been presented to the General Court, being in substance as follows—Viz,

That the Legislature of this Commonwealth would empower two or more Justices of the Peace to try Causes to the Amount of Twenty Pounds & under, and establish at Machias in the County of Lincoln, a Court of Probate of Wills, a Register of Probate, a Register of Deeds, a Court of General Sessions of the Peace, a Court of Common Pleas with a right of Appeal to the Supreme Judicial Court held at Boston, the said Officers to exercise their respective Offices and the said Courts to have jurisdiction, to the Eastward of Penobscot River, Orderd,

That, the Substance of the said Petition as aforementioned be published in three of the Boston Newspapers for three Weeks successively, which shall be considered as a Notifica-

tion to the several Towns in the said County of Lincoln, to shew Cause, if any they have, on the second Wednesday of the first Sessions of the next General Court, why the prayer of the said Petition should not be granted —

And the Secretary is hereby directed to publish the same accordingly —

Sent down for Concurrence

S. Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Oct^r 20th 1783

Read and concurred

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Approv'd John Hancock.

Certificate in Favor Melzar Sampson.

Boston Octo 21. 1783

This Certifies

That the sum of Five hundred & six pounds, fifteen shillings & five pence, for loss & hire of the Sloop Hannah a Transport on the Expedition to Penobscott in the year 1779. and One hundred & twenty Pounds, seven shillings & one penny for Interest thereon to the first Instant—& also Twenty three pounds, one shilling & nine pence for the Masters Wages & his Bill of Disbursements after loss of the Vessell, the whole of which amounting to the sum of Six hundred & fifty Pounds, four shillings & three pence, is due to Melzar Sampson, which when paid will be in full for the same—£650.4.3

Thomas Ivers	}	Com ^{tee} for Audit ^s the
Peter Roe Dalton		Acco ^{ts} of the late Board of War

His Excellency the Governor, & the Hon^{rs} the Council of the Commonwth of Massachusetts

In Council Oct^r 21. 1783

Advised that a Warrant be drawn on the Treasury in full
Discharge of the within Certificate

Jno Avery Sec^r

Petition of Josiah Brewer.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To the Honorable the Senate and the Honorable House of
Representatives in General Court assembled

Octob^r 22. 1783

The Petition of Josiah Brewer residing at Fort Hallifax on Kennebeck River within the County of Lincoln, Esq^r humbly sheweth, That in the Year 1779, when the Enemy took Possession of Majabagaduce your Petitioner was driven from his Habitation on Penobscott River, leaving behind him all his Effects, (excepting a very few trifling Articles) which have been plunder'd by the Enemy & his dwelling house entirely destroyed; by Reason whereof, your Petitioner has been greatly reduced in his Circumstances — That your Petitioner has, for two or three years, resided at said Fort Hallifax, in the Service of this Commonwealth; but in March last was discharged from said Service, and being destitute of House or Home of his own, he prays that he may be permitted to remain in, and occupy the Fort House where he now resides, together with about ten Acres of Land adjoining which your Petitioner fenced in at his own proper Costs & Charge, for the Term of one or two years, free of any Rent, as it is probable that it will be of no Use or Service to the Commonwealth at Present, and that if your Petitioner removes therefrom, it will be improved by the first person that can get the Possession thereof, without ever paying any Rent to the Commonwealth therefor —

And your Petitioner as in Duty bound &c

Josiah Brewer

Certificate in Favor Thomas Stevens.

Boston Octo. 27. 1783 —

This Certifies

That the sum of Three hundred & twenty six pounds, four shillings, for part of the Arm'd Ship Black Prince, lost on the Expedition to Penobscott in the year 1779. and eighty two Pounds eighteen shillings & two pence for Interest thereon to the first Instant, both sums amounting to Four hundred & nine pounds, two shillings & two pence, is due to Thomas Stevens, which when paid to Jonathan Peele, will be in full for the same — £409 . 2 . 2

Thomas Ivers	}	Com ^{tee} for Audit ^s the Acco ^{ts}
Peter Roe Dalton		of the late Board of War

His Excell^y the Governor & the Hon. the Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Council Oct^r 28. 1783.

Advised that a Warrant be drawn on the Treasury in full discharge of the within Certificate

John Avery Sec^y*Land at Falmouth Declared Forfeited to the Commonwealth.*Cumberland Ss January 9th 1784 —

These certify — That at a Court of Common Pleas for said County which was begun and holden at Falmouth within the same, on the last Tuesday of October A. D. 1782 — Certain Lands and Buildings mentioned in a Complaint of the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts which was exhibited to the Inferior Court of Common Pleas for said County begun and holden at said Falmouth on the last Tuesday of October A. D. 1781 — viz — One Moiety of a certain Lot of Land lying in Falmouth aforesaid in that part thereof called the Neck containing twenty eight Square

Rods—with one half the House thereon—Also ano = Lot of Land there containing twenty four square Rods—with the Buildings thereon—And the hundred Acre number seventy eight in the third Division of Lotts in Pearsonstown in said County, all bounded and described as by the said Complaint &c Records of said Court will appear—were by s^d Court declared forfeited And by Law to escheat, enure and accrue to the Sole Use and Benefit of the Commonwealth aforesaid—

Att Sam^l Freeman Cle^r

Petition for a Township.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts To the Honourable the
Senate and the House of Representatives in General
Court Assembled—

the Petition of Ebenezer Lovell of Worcester in the County of Worcester and Commonwealth afores^d with Sixty of his Associates Humbly Sheweth that whereas your Petitioners are desirous of settling a Township of unappropriated land in the Province of Main under such rules and regulations as Your Honours Shall direct—Prays, that your Honours would Grant to him and his Associates a Township of unappropriated land Six miles Square in said Province—

between Penobscott River and Kennebeck River near the line between a place known by Sour Dabscotts Mills and fort Halifax and Your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall ever pray—

Ebenezer Lovele { for himself and
 associates.

Worcester June 25: 1783

In Senate Jan^y 23^d 1784—

Read & thereupon Orderd that this Petition be Committed to the Committee appointed by a Resolve of the 28th Oct^o

last, to execute certain business therein mention'd in the County of Lincoln

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Same day

Read and concurred

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Petition of Peleg Wadsworth and Others for Purchase of a Township on Penobscot River.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To the Honorable the Senate and the Honorable the House of Representatives,

The Petition of Peleg Wadsworth, Joseph Ward and Eliphalet Downer, Humbly Sheweth,

That there being large Tracts of unlocated land in the eastern parts of this Commonwealth, your Petitioners humbly pray that the General Court would be pleased to grant them a Township seven miles square in the unlocated lands adjoining to Penobscot River, near to the head of the Tide; and in the said grant, fix the price which your Petitioners shall give for the said Township, and the terms of payment.

The advantages that may accrue to the Commonwealth in consequence of granting the said Township, we humbly conceive, may be great;—it will increase the value of all the other unlocated lands by extending settlements and cultivation,—bring in some of the public Securities, thereby reduce the debt, and increase public credit,—and by these combined operations in various ways promote the general interest of the Commonwealth, and accelerate the annihilation of the public debt. And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, &c

Peleg Wadsworth

Joseph Ward

Eliphalet Downer

In Senate Jan^y 23^d 1784

Read & thereupon Orderd, that this Petition be Committed to the Committee appointed by a Resolve of the 28th of October last, to execute certain business therein mentioned in the County of Lincoln

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives same day

Read & concurred

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Petition for a Township Between Kennebeck and Penobscot.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To the Honourable the Senate and the House of Representatives in General Court Assembled

the Petition of Thomas Denny of Leicester in the County of Worcester and Commonwealth aforesaid with Sixty of his Associates humbly Sheweth —

That whereas your Petitioners are very desirous of settleing a Township of unappropriated land in the Province of Main, under such rules and Regulations as your Honours shall Direct — Prays that your Honours would Grant to him and his Associates a Township of unappropriated land Six Miles Square in said Province — between Penobscott River and Kenebeck River near the Line between a place Called Sour Dabscotts Mills and Fort Halifax —

and your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall ever Pray

Thomas Denny {	for himself
	and Associates

Leicester July 3^d 1783

In Senate Jan^y 23^d 1784 —

Read & thereupon Orderd that this Petition be Committed to the Committee appointed by a Resolve of the 28th of Oct^b

last, to execute certain business therein mentioned in the
County of Lincoln

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives same day

Read & concurred

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Petition of Francis Shaw.

To The Honorable Senate and Hon^{ble} House of Representa-
tives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts—

The Petition of Francis Shaw in behalf of Himself and
others, Inhabitants and Proprietors of Lands Eastward of
Penobscott River—Humbly Sheweth

That at the Last session of the General Court a Petition
was presented by some Inhabitants of Machias to have a
Court of Sessions and Common Pleas Established in that
place, and a Resolve passed to Warn all persons Concerned
to Appear and Shew Cause, why such a thing should not be
Allowed—

Your Petitioner would beg leave to Acquaint your Honours,
that Machias lyes near a hundred Miles Eastward of Penob-
scot, the former of which with the settlements adjacent has
not near the Number of Inhabitants, as the more Westerly
part of this district, who have never been Consulted on this
Important Affair, nor does it Appear many others Excep^t
the Inhabitants of Machias—

Therefore your Petitioner Humbly Prays, that your
Honours, would take the premisses, under Consideration,
That no such Courts may be Established, till the whole of
the Inhabitants Concerned may have an Oppertunity of Con-
sulting on the subject, And your Petitioner in behalf of him-
self and others as in Duty bound will ever pray.—

Francis Shaw

Resolve on Petition of Francis Shaw.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

house of Representa. 12 Feb' 1784

On the Petition of Francis Shaw

Resolved—That the Petition from the inhabitants of Machias requesting the Establishment of a Court of Common Pleas, be Suspended untill the inhabitants of Gouldsbrough Penobscot &c, have opportunity to represent their Situation—and that the Petitioner Francis Shaw Esq^r be requested to furnish the Gen^l Court of this commonwealth with a just account of the Number of Inhabitants, & their Places of abode, Between Belfast & Passamaquoda—

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Petition of John Peirce.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To the Honorable the Senate and the Honorable House of Representatives of the Commonwealth aforesaid, in General Court assembled—

The Petition of Elisha Gurney and John Peirce of Worcester; in the County of Worcester & Commonwealth aforesaid on their own accounts, and in behalf of sixty other persons, inhabitants of the Same County—

that your Petitioners at the desire of their associates, have been into the late Province of Main to view part of the unappropriated land there, in order for an immediate Settlement of a Township, if a Grant could be obtained from your Honors, for that purpose, and that their report has been Satisfactory to their Employers—

Your Petitioner therefore in behalf of said associates and themselves Humbly pray your Honors that a tract of land

in the said late Province of Main of sufficient quality to form a Township may be Granted them, under Such limitations, restrictions and Conditions as to your Honors Shall Seem meet

And as in duty bound shall ever pray—

John Peirce

Elisha Gurney

Worcester Sept^r 26th. 1783

In Senate Feb^r 20th 1784

Read & thereupon Orderd that this Petition be Committed to the Committee appointed by a Resolve of the 28th October last, to execute certain business therein mentioned in the County of Lincoln

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Feb^r 20th 1784

Read and concurred

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Resolve on the Petition of Josiah Brewer.

Common Wealth Massachusetts

In The House of Representatives March 2nd 1784

On The petition of Josiah Brewer praying for the Liberty. To dwell in the House at Fort Hallifax and to Improve Ten Acres of Land Round Said House which the said Josiah Brewer Fenced in at his own Cost

Resolved. That the Prayer of the Petitioner be so far Granted, That the Said Josiah Brewer to make him Satisfaction for what he has fenced and done thereon, Have Liberty to Improve said House and Land. The Term of One Year from the date hereof he Leaving it with A good Fence and in As good order as it Now stands—

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

any other part of the unappropriated Lands within the County of Lincoln—

And it is further Resolved that the sum of
be allowed & paid out of the public Treasury of this Commonwealth to the said Committee in order to enable them to pay the Surveyor or Surveyors & Chainmen and others that may be employed by them as aforesaid the said Committee to be accountable for the sum aforesaid, and the said Committee are also directed to lay an Account of their own particular time & expenditures while engaged in the business aforesaid before the General Court for examination & allowance.

*Resolve Empowering the Committee of York & Cumberland
Appointed on Eastern Lands to Consider the
Pejepscot Claims.*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate March 15 1784

A resolve Relative to the Unappropriated Lands belonging to this Common Wealth in the Eastern Counties.

Whereas the Committee Appointed by a Resolve of the General Court of May 1, 1781, for examining into all trespasses & illegal entries on the unappropriated lands belonging to this Commonwealth, & to whom further or other powers or orders were given by a Resolve of July 11, 1783 the transacting of which business was on the twenty eighth of October following considered to be so extensive as to require the Attention of two Committes, at which time therefore the said Committee was excused from attending to any concerns that might fall within their Commission in the County of Lincoln. And Another Committee was Appointed to conduct the Affairs therein, by which division A difficulty arises

from the Pejepscot Claim (so called) laying on each Side of Androscoggin River, which River for a considerable length of way is the Boundary line between the counties of Cumberland & Lincoln Therefore Resolved that the Committee Appointed May the 1, 1781 who have the Settlement of the lands in the Counties of York & Cumberland According to the two before mentioned Resolves, be & they hereby Are Authorised & directed to settle the Pejepscot claim (so called) on the Easterly or NorthEasterly Side of Androscoggin River, as far as the said Claim may Appear to them to be well founded, in the same manner as they might or ought to do, if the said Claim layed wholly in the County of Cumberland, agreeable to the two Aforesaid Resolves, And the Committee Appointed to Settle & Ascertain the bounds of the lands in the County of Lincoln Are hereby excused from Attending on Any Settlement on the Aforesaid Claim, Any thing in the Resolve of October the 28. 1783. to the contrary notwithstanding. And it is further Resolved, that Either of the Above named Committees be & they are hereby Authorised & empowered to summons such Evidence before them in behalf of this Commonwealth, in the prosecution of their respective Commission, as they may think necessary, & have the same sworn Accordingly

In the House of Representatives March 16th 1784

Read and Accepted

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

Read & Nonconcurrent

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate March 16th 1784

Ordered that Cotton Tufts & Nathaniel Wells Esq^m be appointed a Committee on the part of the Senate with such as the Hon^{ble} House may join, to confer upon the Subject

matter of a Resolve of the Senate relative to the Pejepscot Claim (so called)

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives same day

Read & concurred & M^r Sullivan & M^r Hosmer are appointed on the part of the House.

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Bill Granting a Lottery to the Inhabitants of Fryburgh.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & eighty four

An Act, granting a Lottery, for the purpose of removing a Jam of Timber in the Town of Fryburgh on Saco River in the County of York.

Whereas it appears of great Utility, that said Jam of Timber should be removed, and whereas a number of inhabitants in Said town, and the towns adjacent, have in their petition, represented their inability to remove the same, & praying that a Lottery may be granted them for that purpose, Be it therefore enacted by the Senate & house of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, that a sum not exceeding three hundred pounds, be raised by a Lottery or Lotteries, for the purpose aforesaid, and that Joshua B Osgood Esq^r M^r Richard Kimball, Cap^t Benjamin Hooper, Benj^a Meads Lord Esq^r & Mr Josiah Thatcher—or any three of them, be managers thereof, who Shall be Sworn to the faithful discharge of their trust, and shall, as Soon as may be, publish a Scheme of such Lottery or Lotteries, in such public newspaper as they may think most proper; and the said managers shall keep just and regular accounts of their proceedings, and of the monies they may

receive in their Said Capacity, which Shall at all times be open to the inspection of the Treasurer of the said town of Fryburgh for the time being; and within one month after they Shall be requested thereto by vote of the Said town, Shall compleat drawing any Such Lottery or Lotteries, and Shall pay the net proceeds thereof in Such manner as Shall be ordered by the Said town, or their Committee, for Such purpose to be chosen; and if the said managers, or any of them, Shall neglect payment as afore Said, for the Space of fourteen days after receipt of such order, the said Treasurer is hereby authorized and impowered, to sue for and recover, for the use of said town, Such monies neglected to have been paid as afore said, by action, in any Court proper to try the Same; and furthermore, the said managers, within three months after the last drawing of said Lottery or Lotteries, Shall settle & finish their accounts of the Said Lottery or Lotteries, and in case they, or either of them, Shall neglect or refuse so to do, or shall refuse or neglect to finish drawing Such Lottery or Lotteries, in manner as afore said, they Shall severally forfeit the Sum of six hundred pounds, for the use of the said town, and to be recovered by the Said Treasurer in manner afore said,—

And be it further enacted by the authority afore said, that the Said Town of Fryburgh, Shall, in the most prudent and expeditious way and manner, apply all the net proceeds of the Said Lottery or Lotteries to the purpose of removing said Jam, and in case the Said town Shall convert the said proceeds to any other use or purpose, or shall unreasonably delay to apply the Same as is herein before directed, the said town Shall forfeit and pay, to the use of the Commonwealth, the sum of six hundred pounds, to be recovered by the Treasurer of the said Commonwealth, by action, in any Court proper to try the same.

And be it further enacted, that all prizes drawn in the

Said Lottery Shall be published in some One of the Boston newsPapers within thirty days after drawing the same, and be paid without deduction, if demanded within twelve months after drawing, otherwise be deemed as generously given for the purpose afore said —

And be it also further enacted ; That if any person or persons Shall forge, counterfeit, or alter any ticket issued by virtue of this act, or shall pass or utter any such forged, counterfeited or altered ticket, knowingly, or that shall counsel, advise or assist in forging, counterfeiting or altering the same, every such person or persons so offending, and being thereof convicted in the Supreme Judicial Court of this Commonwealth, Shall be set on the Gallows for the space of one hour, with a rope about his neck, or Shall pay a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds, to the use of this Commonwealth, or be imprisoned not exceeding twelve months, or be publicly whiped not exceeding thirty nine Stripes, at the discretion of the Justices of the Same Court, who are also hereby impowered to inflict one or more of the said punishments on such offenders, if they see fit.

In the House of Representatives March 15th 1784

This bill having had three several Readings passed to be Engrossed

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Inventory of Public Stores.

Georgetown May 24th 1784

Sir

Agreeable to your Excelency^s Orders to me I Repaired to Penobscot and took an Inventory of all the Public Stores and buildings that I could find at that place which I have the Honour of Transmitting to Your Excellency — after which

took a Tour up the River and made the Strictest Inquiry of the Inhabtants for the names of those which Still Remain among them which had taken an Active part with the British Army and Fleet—a list of which names I have Sent to the Hon^l James Sullavan Esq^r with a Complaint against them in Order that it may be laid before Your Excellency and the Hon^l Council

I have the Hon^r to be with Respect
Your Excellency^s Most Obed^t Ser^t
Sam^l M. Cobb

In Senate June 3^d 1784

Read & sent down
S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives June 3^d 1784

Read & sent up
Sam A Otis Spkr
His Excellency John Hancock Esq^r

An Account of Public Stores Buildings &c found on the Peninsula of Majabigwadu

1 9 P^d Cannon without Carriage
Wharf^s 2 Stores on Wharf^s 2

The whole of the Buildings is Said to be built by British Subjects and Refugees

The whole of the Barrack^s and Kings Store House^s are burnt

Houses	Stories			feet		Stories		
	high	long	wide			high	long	wide
1	1	30	18	1		2	34	20
1	2	36	27	1		1	36	18
1	1	22	14	1		1	20	18
1	1	24	15	1		1	30	17
1	1	28	24	1		1	28	16
1	1	30	18	1		1	30	17
1	1	50	18	1		1	28	16

1	1	28	16	1	2	36	20
1	1	20	16	1	1	27	17
1	1	32	20	1	1	28	12
1	2	36	24	1	1	24	16
1	1	26	16	1	1	28	16
1	1	30	18	1	1	20	15
1	1	32	20	1	1	20	15
1	1	20	14	1	1	20	14
1	1	32	20	1	1	50	14
1	1	30	18	1	1	20	14
1	1	22	18	1	1	20	14

The Above is the best Acc^t I could get of Buildings &
Sam^l M Cobb

Remonstrance of Inhab. of Lower Town of S^t Georges.

To the Hono^{ble} the Gen^{al} Court and house of Representatives
now held in boston In and for said State of the Massa-
chusetts Bay

hum^{ly} Sheweth that we your honours Patitioners the An-
habitance of a Plantation Cal^d the Lower Town of S^t Georges
in the County of Lincoln

We your Honours Petitioners Do understand That the
Town of Warren has Petition^d to your Honour For to have
they Alewives fishery in their Town might be Granted to
them as a Town Privilege and that all other Enhabitance
that Did not belong to their Town should be Exempted from
aney benifit or Privilige in said fishery without Paying for
them to their Town.

Where as the Houn^{ble} Brigadere Samuel Waldow in they
first setling of said Towns Resarv^d all such Privileges for the
good of the Enhabitance of said River

And as their is a Great Many Poor Enhabitance In This
Town who Depends on said Alewives for the Suport of Their

families wick if they are Deprived of must Suffer for Wont of them

Therefore we your Humble Petitioners Pray That you would not Grant to the Town of Warren all the Privilege of Said fishery but would Resarve so much as may Suply Each family with a Sufficent Quantity as may sarve For their suport from year to year which in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray—Sign^d by order and in behalf of said Town at our anuel meeting in March

St Georges March 6th 1780

Benjamin Burton Chareman

Remonstrance of Inhab: of Thomaston and Lower Town of S^t Georges.

To the Hon^{ble} the Council and House of Representatives of the State of Massachusetts Bay in General Court assembled

June 5, 1780

The Inhabitants of the Town of Thomaston in the County of Lincoln, having understood that the Inhabitants of the Town of Warren had petitioned the Great and General Court for an Act or Law respecting the Alewives Fishery in said Warren, did, at their meeting in may legally assembled, make choice of a Committee to enquire into the matter, and to act thereupon what might be proper and necessary; the Inhabitants of the Plantation called the lower Town of S^t Georges had also chosen a Comìttee for the same Purpose: The said Committee of Thomaston on the twenty sixth of May last obtained a Copy of an Act that had been Read a first time, with the Order of the late House of Representatives of the first of Jan^r thereupon; being the first regular Account that we could obtain of the Matter

We the Subscribers in behalf of the Town, and Plantation for which we are chosen respectively, Beg leave to represent to your Honors, That the Falls on the River S^t Georges in the Town of Warren is the only Place in either of the said Towns or Plantation where the Fish called Alewives can be caught in any considerable plenty.

That the Lands adjoining the Falls were never disposed of by the late Brigadier Waldo, or any other Proprietors, but hath been reserved for the use of the Fishery.

That many poor Persons with large Families have been, and still are necessitated to subsist all most entirely on said Fish.

That the Inhabitants of said Town and Plantation from their Settlement on said River, and from the Deeds of their Lands given them by said Brigadier Waldo, which amongst other Things, mention & convey in particular, "all Rivers, Waters and Fishings" ever supposed that they had an equal Right in Common with the Town of Warren to the Fishery there: and

We are of Opinion that the said Inhabitants of Warren under the spacious (though very proper and necessary) Title of "An Act for preventing the Destruction of Alewives," intended an Act to monopolize the whole Fishery to themselves, and to establish a large Fund to said Town thereupon

We are also humbly of Opinion That the proposed Act so intirely includes the Alewife Fishery to said Warren, and so fully puts the Disposal thereof into their Power, that they may set what Premium they please on the Fishery, and thereby make Alewives as costly, as any other Provision whatever, to the very great Oppression and Distress of those Poor who depend on them for their Support; and Infringement of the Rights & Property of the Inhabitants of this Town & Plantation;

Wherefore in behalf of said Town and Plantation, we Your Memorialists humbly pray, That, if said proposed Act

hath not passed already it may not pass, according to the present Form; and if it hath passed; that it may be repealed and altered in such a manner as that the Inhabitants of said Thomaston and said Plantation in their respective Town and Plantation Meetings, or by their respective Committees for that purpose to be chosen, together with the Town of Warren, or their Committee, may have equal Authority in determining the Time, Place, and manner of catching the said Fish; and that all monies, Profits, & Advantages in any Ways arising from said Fishery, may in an equitable Manner be divided and established to each of said Towns and Plantation: Or, at least, that the Inhabitants of said Thomaston & s^d Plantation of St Georges, may have Liberty of taking and catching so many of said Fish as may be necessary for their own Use and Consumption, without molestation or Obstruction, or paying any such enormous Prices as the Town of Warren may be disposed to set upon them, and your memorialists as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c

David Fales	}	Committee for Thomaston
Jeremiah Tolman		

Florence Robinson	}	Committee for the Plantation called the lower Town of St George

Affidavit of John M^cIntyre and William Lermond.

Warren Septemb^r 17th 1781

We John M^cIntyre & William Lermond of Lawful age, Testify & say that we Notified the Selectmen of Thomaston to Shew Cause if any they have Why the prayers of the

petition from the town of Warren Should Not Be Heard on
Regulating their fishery in S^d Town

John M^cIntyre

William Lermond

Lincoln Ss Thomaston Sept^r 17 1781

there Personally Appeared the Above named John M^c-
Intyer and William Lamond and made oath to the truth of
the above Deposition by them Subscribed Before me

Mason Wheaton Just^s Peace.

Remonstrance of John Dillaway.

To the honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the
Commonwealth of Massachusetts held at Boston 16th
June 1783

Humbly sheweth John Dillaway as he is representative of
the Town of Thomastown in the county of Lincoln

That the Town of Warren which is a town bordering upon
the one which your petitioner represents, has without any
previous advice given to Thomastown—petitioned to your
honors that certain Falls called Georgia's falls—should be
annexed as a privilege peculiar to said Town of Warren
and that said Town should have the exclusive benefit of fish-
ing in said falls notwithstanding, almost time out of mind
that benefit has been extended to the inhabitants of all the
Towns in said river—which general benefit was first granted
by brigadier Waldo & other proprietors of the Eastern lands
on both sides said river

As the subject of said Petition of the town of Warren is
very important to the neighboring towns especially to Thomas-
town & as Thomastown has never been notified thereof & is
now totally uninformed thereof Your Petitioner in behalf as
aforesaid humbly prays your honors that said Petition may

be on your honors table until the next session that so said Thomastown may have time to shew cause why said Petition should not be granted.

John Dillaway

A Bill to Prevent the Destruction of Alewives in the Town of Warren.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & eighty four

An Act for preventing the destruction of alewives in the Town of Warren

Whereas the laws already made against the destruction of Alewives are found insufficient for that purpose within the Town of Warren & great waste is made of them by ill disposed persons to the great damage of the public

Be it therefore enacted by the Senate & House of Representatives in General Court assembled & by the authority of the same that no person or persons whom power be allowed from & after the first day of April—next to catch or take any of the fish called alewives in any part of the river S^t Georges within the town of Warren either with scoop nets or in any other way without first obtaining special license therefor by a vote of the Inhabitants of the said Town legally assembled at their anniversary meeting in the month of March or at any time or place but such as shall be determined upon & appointed at such meeting; and if any person or persons shall presume on any pretence whatever to catch or take any of the said Fish in any manner or at any time or place within the s^d Town other than such as shall be assigned by the Inhabitants thereof as aforesaid, each & every person so offending shall for each offence forfeit & pay the sum of

thirty shillings together with all the fish so taken & the instruments used in taking the same

Provided nevertheless that nothing in this act shall extend or be construed to extend to the preventing of the Inhabitants of the plantation called the lower town of S^t Georges from catching & taking such quantities of the said Fish in the river aforesaid within the s^d Town of Warren as may be sufficient for their own internal use & consumption in manner & at the times & places as has heretofore been customary

And be it further Enacted by the authority afores^d that all fines & forfeitures that may be incurred by any breach of this Act shall be recovered by action on debt in any of the courts of record proper to try the same within the county where such offence shall be committed, one moiety thereof to be appropriated to for the use of the poor of the said Town of Warren; the other moiety to him or them who shall prosecute the same.

In the House of Representatives March 4th 1784

This Bill having had three several Readings passed to be Engrossed

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Memorial and Objection of the Inhabitants of Mount Desert.

Commonwealth Massachusetts

To the Honorable Senate & House of Representatives the
 Pitition of the Inhabantants of Mountdesar Humbly
 Sheweth —

that finding a News paper of the tinth of November Last wherein was an order of the Legis-lature of this Common-wealth of October the twentyeth which informed us to our

Great Surprise—that their had been Several Petitions from the Inhabitants of Machias and others to the General Court for Erecting a Court of Common Pleas &c &c to be held at Machias with appeals to the Supreme Judicial Court to be held at Boston—and s^d officersers to have Jurisdiction to the Eastward of Penobscot River—all which was Intirly new to all of us nor can we find any in any of the Plantations neer us that had been aprised their of—but finding by the afore s^d order Leve Given and a time Set to obgeet against s^d Petitions we fear it will be two Late to provent their Proceedings—But as it is a thing that so newly Consarns us and the Community in General we bege Leve to offer our Obgection against s^d Petitions and Imbrace the first opertunity

that a Court at Machias is very Improper as being at one Corner of the s^d Jurisdiction & we think that near nine tenths of the Inhabitants Lieth to the westward of Machias and many of them one Hundred miles Distance and we think that traveling Expençe & tendence of Court will be much Cheeper at Pownalborough then at Machias

that appeals to the Supreme Judicial Court held at Boston is very in Convenent for the Inhabitants as it is so fur to travel by Land and but Very fue that have any Convenience to Go by watter and if they had So much Depends on wind and weather which makes it Very Dificult if not Imposable at Sume times for People to attend Court—

that as we are not yet Recovered from the Dificulty of a Long and tedeous war whereby all our Lumber trade was Stopped on which our Living much Depended and not yet much Recovered ther from—we think our selves not able as yet to Suport the Charges of a County in this Jurisdiction and we think it a little Strang that People that the other Day was Petitioning for help from the Commonwealth should so Sune Petition for Courts to be Erected here in this Jurisdiction—

And we further think that a Court held at Machias will Sarve to ogment and Ineres Lawsuts and Charges that other-wise would Easily be Settled which will tend much to the Damage of the Inhabitants in perticler—and to the Publick in General—their are many more obgections which we think might be offered but these we submit to your wise Consideration

If these be not two Late a Coming to your View We Pray your Hounors to take the afores^d Objection into your wise Consideration and Consider the waight—as we aprehend—thereof—and stop Ganting the Prayr of the Petitions from Machias and we the faithfull Inhabetants of Moundesart as Bound in Duty Shall Eever Pray—

Mountdesart March y^e 18th 1784

James Richardson, Abraham Somes Jesse Higgins, Stephen Richardson, Joshua Norwood, Peter Gott, Stephen Norwood, John Tinker, Thomas Richardson, Thomas Richardson Jun^r, John Gott Richardson, Joseph Mayo, Daniel Richardson, James Richardson Jun^r, Andrew Tarr, John Thomas, Ezra Young, Josiah Black, Elisha Cousins, Israel Higgins, Levi Higgins Timothy Smith, John Hamon, Daniel Rodick, David Damon, Ezra Leland, Robert Yong, Ebenezer Salsby, Edward Hodgkins, Edward Black, John Cousins, Daniel Hamon, Elkanah Young.

Objections to fixing the Court at Machias.

To the Honerarbel House of Representatives of the Common
Wealth of the Massachusetts Bay In Generall Court
Asambled

Humbly Begg—

That if there is to be a Court of Justice held in this Easterly part it may Be in a more Centrical part then Machias Witch Is In the Most Easterly part of this Common Wealth

to the Grate Damedge of your petitioners and as In Duty Bound We Shall Ever pray —

Union River March the twentieth one Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty four —

John Smith, Benjamin Joy, Joshua Maddocks, John Merah, George Haslam, John Joy, Hanry Maddocks, Ichabod Maddocks, Josiah Graling, Benjamin Jellson, Will^m Hopkins, James Smith, Thomas Mc fording, Solomon Jordan, Joseph Morrison, Samuel Joy, Samuel Davis, Nathaniel Jordan, James treworgy Sen^r, Edward Beal, dominicus Beal, Isaac Lord.

Petition of Sudbury Canada Bridgeton & Fryeburg.

To the honorable Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled.

We the underwritten, your Petitioners, having been appointed a Committee from the Townships of Sudbury Canada Bridgeton, and Fryeburg lying on and near Androscoggin River, in behalf of the Inhabitants of said Townships and Places adjoining, to represent to the honorable Court their Exposedness, from their frontier Situation, to the barbarous Incursions and Ravages of the Indians, whose Cruelties have been already felt in one of said Towns; and as said Townships are but new Settlements, incapable of protecting themselves, while they are necessarily employed in the Cultivation of the Ground, for the support of themselves and Families; beg permission to return their acknowledgements to the honorable Court for their Compassion and care in relieving them from their Anxieties, the Summer past, by stationing a party of men at Sudbury Canada, and likewise beg leave humbly to petition the honorable Court that they would be pleased to

afford us some further Assistance which we request may be sent for our protection by the first of June next, if it shall seem convenient to the honorable Court, as we are not without apprehensions of further mischief from the Savages, who may be induced to make their attempts as early as the travelling will admit, which we hope will be our Excuse for preferring our petition at this Time. We presume it unnecessary to mention the Situation of Sudbury Canada, as an excellent Frontier for covering the Counties of York and Cumberland from the Inroads of the Enemy, it being the only avenue thro' which they may enter and where thirty Men might be sufficient to protect both those Counties from the Incursions they are exposed to from small bodies of Indians. Relying therefore on the Humanity and Wisdom of the honorable Court, for such Assistance as they in their wisdom shall think conducive to our safety Your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray &c

Elea ^r Twitchell	}	Committee men of Sudbury Can ^a
Jona ^a Clark		
Richard Eastman	}	Committee of Fryeburg
Ezek Walker		
Isaac Abbott		
Enoch Perley	}	Agent for Bridgton

Resolve.

Commonwealth }
of Massachusetts }

In the House of Representatives March 22^d 1783.

On the Petition of the Town of Fryeburg, Bridgton & Sudbury=canada Praying for a guard to be Stationed at

Sudbury=canada for the Protection of the frontiers of the Counties of York and Cumberland.

Resolved that there be raised in the Counties of York and Cumberland by voluntary Inlistment and Stationed on the frontiers of said Counties a Company of men to Consist of One Lieu^t and thirty men to Continue in Service till the first day of December next unless sooner discharged: and his Excellency the Governor is requested to Appoint and Commission the Officer Accordingly And to give the Necessary orders for Carrying this Resolve into Execution.

And it is further Resolved, that there be allowed the same wages and rations as officers and Soldiers received in the Continental Army; and that the Commissary General Supply the aforesaid men with Provision or money, as he shall Agree, for their rations as aforesaid.

Resolve Concerning the Artillery in the Garrison at Penobscot.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate March 23 1784

Whereas the British Troops in the Garrison on Penobscot River, will soon Evacuate the same, and it being necessary that measures should be immediatly taken to secure the American Artillery that may be left there-in

It is therefore Resolved that the Governor with advice of Council appoint a Suitable person to repair without delay to that place and to take into his Custody all Artillery and also all such Stores and materials as are not the property of private persons and which may be left in and about the same Garrison when the same shall be evacuated, and that the person so appointed shall take an Exact List of all such Artillery Stores and materials as shall be found there as aforesaid and shall deliver the same to the order of the

Commissary General taking a Receipt for the same and such person so appointed shall have power to require of one of the next Commissioned Militia officers to detach so many of the militia as may be necessary to secure the said Artillery stores &c and shall return an account of Such Assistance to the General Court with an Account of his own time and Expences that the same may be paid out of the public treasury.

Resolved that the Commissary General deputize some person to procure the Artillery and Articles above mentioned and that he procure the same to be brought and delivered to the Captain of the Garrison on Castle Island to be there kept for the public benefit.

Memorial and Objections to the Petition of Inhabitants of Machias.

Gouldsborough 20 April 1784

Hon. Senate & house of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Deligates legally appointed by the Inhabitants of the Several Townships laying between the River Penobscot and Machias in the County of Lincoln & Commonwealth afore-said beg leave to represent to your Honors that in Consequence of an order from your Legislature dated the Twentieth of October last where in it is represented that a Petition signed by a number of Inhabitants of Machias and others had requested of the said Hon^{ble} Legislature that Certain Courts Registers Office &c should be Established at that place and have Jurisdiction East of Penobscot with Liberty of Appeal to the Supreme Judicial Court at Boston in Consequence of the Said order the Inhabitants ever happy in the Indulgence of your Honors have directed that at this meeting a proper representation of the Situation of this part of the County by the Joint Voice Should be made and that

any thing that they should think would be of Advantage to the County in General should be propos'd to your Honors in whose Great Wisdom they Altogether Depend Equally acquainted with the Sentiments of the Inhabitants as well as the Situation of the County. We beg your Indulgence while we relate a few facts this new County that is proposed will Extend the distance of One hundred and twenty Miles Interspersed with a number of Islands those as well as the Main have but few Inhabitants and they through the operation of the late War very Unable to Support the Charges that would Attend the Establishing a New County but were the Inhabitants in a Capacity to Errect the Necessary Buildings & we think it almost the Unanimous Oppinion that the Shire Town should be as near the Center as possible not at either of the Extreem parts as it would be; Should the Petition from Machias be Granted as the Roads are so bad that it would be Impractable for to pass, and few have Boats or Craft and if they had it depends so much on Winds & Weather, that in many Instances they would not attend Court in Season we would further observe that there is not one place Incorporated between the river Penobscot and the Extreem Eastern bounds of this Commonwealth and let us be ever so sufficient for the Business it would be very Difficult to Collect a proper Jury — There is no men we think that have been or are now readier in this Commonwealth at all Times to bear their proportion of the public Expences but for the reasons before mentioned the Devastation by the Late War We doubt not your honors will readily give the Country opportunity to be enabled before you will request it — all which is Humbly Submitted by James Richardson, Delegate from Mount Desert John Bane Delegate from Frenchmans Bay Fra: Shaw Delegate from Gouldsborough Johnathan Stevens Delegate from Number Four William Nickels Delegate from Number Six

The Deligate from Pleasent River is of Opinion that it is not for the Benifit of this part of the County to have a Court of Common Pleas or the Court of General Sessions sett in this part of the County, and is Directed by his Constituents to oppose it— But is fully persuaded that it wou'd be for the benefit of the whole to have a Court of Probates and a Register of Deeds appointed in this part near the Center.

Joseph Wilson Delegate from Pleasent River Dissent,

Because the State of Facts pointed out in the Petitions from Machias (for which the Report of the Committee of both Houses was founded) were Just & True, and the Difficultys they therein mentioned still Continues, and there is not any Reasons advanced (in my opinion) either in the foregoing Representation or in the Arguments made use of by any of the Delegates in the Meeting, sufficient in the least Respect to shew, why the Report of the Committee of both Houses of the General Court, should not be carried into effect

Ja^s Avery. Delegate from Machias

In the House of Representatives June 12th 1784

Read & thereupon Ordered that this answer together with another from certain Inhabitants on Union River be committed to the Committee of both Houses on the petition of Machias herein referred to.

Sent up for concurrence

Sam A Otis Spk^r

Answer to Remonstrants.

Whereas the Delegates of a Number of the Plantations to the Westward of this place have sent a Remonstrance or Memorial to the Legislature of this Commonwealth, shewing why Courts &c should not be established at Machias.

To which reasons we purpose to reply & endeavour to obviate the objections as follows:—

1st The Memorial sets out with a declaration that they are legally appointed by the Inhabitants of the several Townships between Penobscot & Machias.—

To this we would observe, that the Inhabitants on the Eastern side of the River Penobscot, Bagwaduce, Blue Hill, Deer Island, Naskeeg, Union River and Chandlers River, did not send any Delegates. And if the Delegates of those places that did attend, were appointed by the Inhabitants of the several places they represented, or if they conveyed the true Sentiments of their Constituents; no doubt they can produce their Authority and Instructions.—2^d They say it is proposed to sett off a New County!

Answer. It is not so; we never asked it, nor does the report of the Committee of both Houses imply any such thing.—

3^d They say the Shire Town should be as nigh the Centre as possible.—

Ans^r For that very reason, Machias ought to be the place.

4th The next difficulty mentioned, is, The badness of the Roads, scarcity of Boats & Craft, and dependence on wind & weather.

Ans^r This reason operates entirely in our favour: If it is tedious to travel ten miles of bad road, it must be more so to travel fifty miles of the same kind of travelling, whither by land or water; and if wind and weather makes it precarious to go a small distance, the difficulty will increase in proportion as the distance increases. 5th The next reason is, That there is not one Incorporated Town between Penobscot and the extreme Eastern bounds of this Commonwealth, which will make it difficult to collect a Jury.—

Ans^r Admitting that could prevent a Jury from being returned; is it not in the power of the Legislature to remove that obstacle? It is but for them to order that Jurors Shall be chose in each Plantation, in the same manner as they are

in Towns incorporated, and appointing proper persons to call meetings of the Inhabitants for choosing the same and making return thereof. Perhaps some of the settlements are in a Condition to support Town charges, and ought for their own Interest to be Incorporated, and desire it: Sure we are, Machias is of that number, and have actually petitioned to be Incorporated.—

6th The last reason mentioned, is, The total inability of the Country to support the charges that may arise &c

Ans^r This reason is given on Supposition of our being set off as a County which is not in contemplation, and the ability of the Inhabitants for that purpose doth not come under consideration; but poverty may be pleaded as a Substantial reason why Law & justice should be brought as nigh home as possible: But we are fully convinced that it is not the true reason: In our opinion, they imagine it will bring on Continental and State Taxes, which many would desire to avoid, whither able or not able; and they suppose if not incorporated & they can prevent a Court being held in this part of the County, they never will be taxed by Government, let them be ever so able. But we say it will not bring on Taxes the sooner, for if we are able to pay Taxes, we ought to do so, and must if called upon, whether Incorporated or not; But if we can make it appear that we are not able to pay Taxes, Government will have the justice & lenity to remit it. Further, we dare assert, if Gouldsbrough could be made the shire Town, and this Country wholly exempt from taxes, the reasons given against it would not have been alledged: It must be from some latent motive that it is opposed, being conscious, that if facts are known, Machias will and ought to be the place established for holding Court &c. A Plantation that has taken the Oath of Allegiance to Britain, and those that petitioned for Neutrality, may be expected to oppose it.—

Thus we think we have fully answered all their objections, and now desire to offer some further Reasons in support of the measure; After having just observ'd that in the report of the Committee of both Houses, it was stated that the district should be from Union River (not Penobscot,) to the Eastern boundary of the State, being about One hundred Miles on a Strait line.

And

1st Machias is very nigh the centre, of said District, it being about forty five miles from the River S^t Croix, (the eastern boundary) and about fifty six miles from Machias to Union River, the proposed western boundary.—

2^{dly} Machias is the first settlement to the westward of Passamaquoddy, and there being many Refugees lately settled there; in case there should be any dispute between British Subjects and the Citizens of America, Machias would then be an Asylum for the distressed Americans, where they could find immediate assistance and support: And as many of the Refugees that are settled at Passamaquaddy and other parts of Nova Scotia, will find it difficult to get employ in that Province, they will naturally seek it this way, and perhaps many of them having led vicious lives, may be guilty of Theft, house-breaking and other enormities which deserve exemplary punishment but must escape with impunity if no relief is granted; for to prosecute any crime at Pownalborough (distant more than 200 Miles) would almost ruin the prosecutor if he is in comfortable circumstances; and in case of a commitment, it must first fall very heavy upon the Civil Officers, and finally on the County; for persons who are guilty of crimes of that nature, are seldom able to pay small charges, much less such an enormous sum as must arise in that case.—

3^{dly} The shire Town should be as near the Centre of the District as may be, & where entertainment may be had. To

this Article our opponents have subscribed. But Machias is the nighest the centre, the Inhabitants are numerous and very compact. A Court could be better accommodated there, than at any other settlement in the propos'd district; and Hundreds of strangers could be there entertained. Our Meeting-house could be converted into a Court-house and the Block-house to a Goal. Let it be taken in any view, Machias is the most suitable place, best situated, most inhabited, and nighest the centre.—

4th As the Delegates in their Representation, have not given any reason or objected against having a Court of Probate and Register of Deeds, we must infer they acquiesce therein.—

5th The exertion of Machias (with the assistance rec'd from the hon^{ble} Legislature) was the means of preserving to this State, all the Country east of Penobscot; for had we not held out against the enemy, or had we come into M^r Shaw's propos'd plan of Neutrality, all the other settlements as far west as Penobscot, (at least,) would have fell to Britain; and the British Ministry would have had foundation for a demand to the right of Territory aforesaid and the American Ministers at Paris, could have made no Plea against it.

The Inhabitants of Machias, mean not to boast of their firm and unanimous affection for their Country, their numerous exertions in its cause or the success which has crowned their faithful efforts: Nor do they plead these as meritorious of some signal favor— They have only done their duty. And as they were firm and determined in War, so they mean and wish to support the Character of good Citizens in Peace, and desire nothing more, than that the honest & industrious should be protected, and the vicious punished.

Stephen Smith,	Joseph Libbee	} Committee of Correspondence
Morris O'Brien,	J Noble Shannon	
Benj Foster		

Stephen Jones Jus^a Peces

Machias May 12th 1784

Petition of Pelatiah Warren and Others.

To the Honourable Senate, & the Honourable, House of
Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
in General Court Assembled At their May Session, 1784.

The Petition of the Subscribers Humbly Sheweth that
Your petitioners were cheifly brought up, & Accustomed to
Husbandry business, and having but small fortunes to set
out in the world with, cannot purchase farms Already Sub-
dued & under Cultivation, & being willing to labour, & do
all we can in Clearing, & Cultivating the wilderness.

Therefore pray the Honourable Court would Grant us a
Gore, or tract of Land in the County of Cumberland, between
the plantations of Bakerstown & Silvester Northwesterly &
Southeasterly, & Shepherdsfield, & Androscoggin River
Northeasterly & Southwesterly, for what the Same is worth
in the present wilderness State it lays in, & such other Re-
strictions as shall be thought proper. And your petitioners
as in duty bound shall ever pray

May 26, 1784

Pelatiah Warren, Benjamin Parker Jun, Lemuel Megray,
Elias Davis, Micah Dyer, James Wagg Jun^r Tristram War-
ren, Daniel Cooper, Tobias Ricker, Benjamin King, John
Cutting, Joshua Strout, Nat Gavist, John Winslow William
Gerish, Nathaniel Garish, George Garish Jun^r Ichabod War-
ren, Ebenezer Warren, Jacob Lord Jun^r, Amos Goodwin,
John Warren, Andrew Ellet, Edmund Warren, Edmund
Neall, Nathaniel Walker, Silas Goodwin, Dominicus Good-
win, Thomas Bragdon 3^d, Elisha Hill 3^d, John Plaisted

James Lunt to John Avery Jr. Esq.

Falmouth Mar^h 12th 1784

Sir

I this day rec^d yours of y^e 1st Inst. informing me of my
being Elected Coll^r of Excise for y^e County of Cumberland,

for the ensuing year; Tis with pleasure Sir,—I Accept the Office; And shall endeavour impartially to Execute the Trust reposed in me.—

I am, sir, your most Obligated, Humb' Servant,

James Lunt

John Avery jun^r Esq^r

In Senate May 28th 1784

Read and sent down

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives May 28. 1784

Read & sent up

Sam A Otis Speak^r

Proceedings of Delegates from Mt. Desert and Other Places.

Att a Meeting of the Delegates legally appointed by the Inhabitants of the Several Townships laying between the river Penobscot and Machias in the County of Lincoln and Commonwealth of Massachusetts at Goulds bourough 20 April 1784 to Consider of a petition from a Number of Inhabitants of Machias and others as is more fully sett forth in an order of the Honb^{le} Legislature of Said Commonwealth bearing date the 17th October 1783 Present

James Avery Esq^r from Machias, John Bean from frenchman bay, Cap^t Jos Willson from pleasant River, Cap^t Will^m Nickells from Narraguagus, James Richardson from Mount Desert Jonathan Stevens from N^o 4 Francis Shaw Esq^r Col^o Nathan Jones Doctor Benj^m Allen M^r Thomas Hill } from Gouldsbourough

Made Choice of Cap^t William Nickles Chairman and James Avery Clerk

Moved, by M^r Avery that the present Justices of the Inferiour Court and Justices of the Sessions hold one Term

in the year at N^o 4 in Eastern Six Townships, pass'd in Negative Moved, by M^r Avery that a register or Deputy register of Deeds be appointed for this County, pass'd in Negative Moved, that the present Judge of Probate hold two Courts in the Year in this part of the County, pass'd in Negative Voted that Francis Shaw Esq^r Doctor Allin and M^r Richardson be a Committee to draw up the Sentiments of this meeting and report the Same.

The Committee Reported a letter to His Excellency the Governor & Hon^{ble} Lageslative of this Commonwealth — which was read & accepted, and Signed

W Nickles Ch^r J Avery Clerk (Copy)

Voted that Francis Shaw Esq^r & Doctor Allen present said Letter to the Gov^r & Gen^l Court, both or either of which be empowered to attend that Service

Attest Ja^s Avery, Clerk

Gouldsbrough 29 May 1784

By Virtue of the Authority in Us Vessted by the Deligates of the several Towns, laying between the said Rivers Penobscot & Machias, We do hereby Constitute & appoint Henry Alline Esq^r of Boston & W^m Shaw Esq^r of Gouldsbrough, or either of them, to Present the Proceedings of this Convention, To His Excell^r and their Honors, and to Act in our Behalf —

Fra: Shaw Benjⁿ Alline

Report of Committee.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

The Committee of both Houses on the Petition of the Inhabitants of Machias & others, a Resolve of the General Court thereon, and the Papers accompanying the same, finding that some further Light is necessary in order to deter-

mine the minds of the Committee, beg leave to report that the whole be referred to the next Sessions of the General Court, that the Parties concerned may have an opportunity of furnishing such further evidence as may be necessary

Cotton Tufts p^r order

In Senate June 12, 1784

Read & accepted & orderd that the said Petition and papers be referrd accordingly

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives June 15, 1784

Read and concurred

Sam A Otis Spk^r

Bill to Establish a Court at Machias.

In the Year of our Lord one Thousand Seven Hundred & Eighty four

Whereas the Inhabitants of that part of the County of Lincoln Eastward of Union River labour under peculiar difficulties, (when obliged to attend the Courts of Common pleas and General Sessions of the peace for said County which are now holden at Pownalborough only; And Whereas) for the security of their purchases of Real Estate, and the distribution and settlement of the Estates of any deceased among them—and for the doing and transacting of many matters and things relative thereto they are obliged with great expence and trouble—frequently to repair to Pownalborough in which place alone the Court of the Judge of Probate and for granting Letters of Administration &^{ca} for said County, and the Office of Register of Deeds is now held and kept; And Whereas every subject of a good Government ought to obtain Right and Justice with the least possible trouble and

expençe; And whereas Publick Justice and Public Institutions ought to be equally and in due proportion supported and maintained by, and the Benefits arising therefrom as far as the Nature of things will admit equally diffused among, Subjects of the same Government.

Thereupon Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That from and after the passing of this Act, the Court of Common Pleas and Court of General Sessions of the Peace for said County of Lincoln be, and they are hereby directed to be, held once a Year at Machias in said County; and that the Jurors summoned to hear and determine the matters and things triable by said Courts at their Sessions at Machias aforesaid, or that may hear and determine the same be summoned and chosen from among the Freeholders of said Eastern part of said County—and that the said courts be held at Machias aforesaid on the first Tuesday of September annually, any Law, Usage or Custom to the Contrary notwithstanding

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid that a Register of Deeds be appointed by the said Eastern part of said County, and they the said Eastern part are hereby authorized and empowered to choose, have and Appoint a Register of Deeds in the same manner, at the same times and for the same terms as Register of Deeds are chosen by the respective Counties of this Commonwealth, and the several Towns, Townships and plantations within said part of said County are hereby vested with the same powers for the purpose of choosing said Register as the several Towns in the respective Counties of this Commonwealth are by Law invested with, and the several Justices within said Eastern part of said County are hereby authorized and empowered, by summons for that purpose to call a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the several Towns, Townships and plantations

aforesaid for the purpose aforesaid, and the said Justices are hereby further empowered to receive the Votes of the said Inhabitants of the several Towns, Townships and plantations aforesaid, to seal up the same and them to return to the Court of General Sessions of the Peace then next to be holden within said County of Lincoln, and said Court at such Sessions shall declare the choice of said Register and do in and about the same as the several Courts of General Sessions of the Peace within this Commonwealth are by Law authorized and empowered to do in the Choice of Registers of Deeds for any County within said Commonwealth, the said Register to be sworn, give Bond and comply with the Requisites by law made and provided for all Registers of Deeds within said Commonwealth. And the said Register of Deeds shall keep his office in Machias aforesaid and shall register and record all such Conveyances and Purchases of Real Estates lying within said Eastern part of said County of Lincoln as are directed and pointed out by law to be registered and recorded, and all deeds and conveyances of Land lying in said Eastern part registered and recorded in said Register's Office at Machias aforesaid shall be good and effectual in Law and enure to the same purposes as those registered in any County Register's Office within this Commonwealth, any law, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that the Judge of Probate of Wills and for granting Letters of Administration &c be hereby ordered and directed to hold his Court of Probate &c twice in a Year, to wit, on the First Tuesday of May and on the first Tuesday of September at Penobscott, (and that a Register of probate be forthwith appointed who shall reside at said Machias and whose Attestations to, and Certificates of, any Records in said Judge's Court, and whose Acts, and any Writing under whose hand

as Register aforesaid shall be as good and Effectual in Law to all intents and purposes as the Acts, Writings, Attestations and Certificates of any Register of probate within this Commonwealth, any law, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding—

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that in convenient time before the sitting of the Courts of Common pleas and General Sessions of the peace at Machias aforesaid the Clerk for said Courts shall issue out Warrants directed to the respective Justices of the Peace living in said Eastern part of said County of Lincoln, which Justices respectively authorized, empowered and directed upon receiving the same to assemble the Freeholders of the said Townships & Plantations within the said Eastern Part of said County of Lincoln for the purpose of electing and choosing so many good & lawful Men of the said Townships and plantations as the Warrant to the aforesaid Justices shall direct, and the several Townships and plantations by each of said Justices to be assembled as aforesaid, for the purpose aforesaid shall be specified in each Warrant, and the respective Justices shall summon the persons so chosen in the respective Townships and plantations, which in the Warrants to them by the Clerk aforesaid they and each of them are directed to assemble; to attend accordingly at the time and place in such Warrants specified, and shall make timely return of their Warrants unto the said Clerk—and the Jurors chosen as aforesaid that shall make default shall be liable to the same fines that Jurors for the Courts of Common pleas and General Sessions of the peace throughout the Commonwealth are by Law liable to, which fines shall be inflicted, levied and disposed of as is by Law provided for the Default of other Jurors who are in the ordinary method summoned to attend any Courts of Common Pleas or General Sessions of the peace throughout

the Commonwealth, any law, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

Petition of the Court of Sessions of Cumberland County.

To the Honorable Senate and the Honorable House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts—in General Court assembled

The Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the County of Cumberland, humbly pray that your Honors would order the Treasurer of the said Commonwealth to pay to the Treasurer of said County, through the hands of the Honorable John Lewis Esq^r the amount of the Accounts accompanying this Petition, viz The Account of Sam^l Freeman Esq^r £3. 14.— The Account of John Waite Esq^r 2. 13. 4 & The Account of Thomas Motley 3. 10— in y^e whole £9 .. 17 .. 4.

the two first being for the Charges of carrying into effect the Request of the Treasurer of the Commonwealth respecting the delinquent Towns & Plantations in this County—and the other for supporting in the Goal of said County one Thomas Oxnard a State, Prisoner who was liberated by order of his Excellency the Governor

Which Accounts have been allowed by said Court of Sessions & ordered to be paid out of the Treasury of said County—

And as in duty bound will pray

By Order of said Court of Sessions

Sam^l Freeman Cler

Falm^a June 10, 1784

In Senate June 24th 1784

Read & thereupon Ordered that this Petition & Accounts accompanying be committed to the Committee on Accounts for Examination and allowance

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives June 24, 1784

Read & Non-concurred

Sam A Otis Spk^r

Account of the County of Cumberland Against the Commonwealth.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts to the County of Cumberland D^r 1784 May

To Sam^l Freeman Esq^r Account for his Service as Clerk of the Court Sessions to carry into Effect the Request of the Treasurer of said Commonwealth in respect to delinquent Towns & Plantations £3.14

To John Waite Esq^r Sheriff for serving the Orders of said Court £2..13..4

To Thomas Motley Goal Keeper for boarding Thomas Oxnard 7 Weeks p^r his Acct^a herewith 3..10— Total £9:17:4

The above Accounts were allowed by the Court of General Sessions for said County of Cumberland— which was begun & holden at Falmouth in said County in the last Tuesday of May A D 1784—and Order'd to be charged to the said Commonwealth,— The Said Court pray that the above account may be allowed—

Att. Sam^l Freeman Clerk

The County of Cumberland to Sam^l Freeman D^r 1784 May

To making out & recording the Orders of y^e Court of Sessions last Octob^r Term upon Certificate of the State Treasurer including the Order to the Sheriff & Copy of the Same—£..—18—

To making out 8 Commissions to Persons appointed to the Officers— & making Returns on said Certificates £2.16—
Total £3..14—

Received an Order on the County Treasurer for the above
Sam^l Freeman

The County of Cumberland to Tho^s Motley D^r 1784 May.

To Boarding Thomas Oxnard 7 Weeks a 10/ £3.. 10.. —

N. The said Oxnard was committed for returning from Banishment & liberated by Order of his Excellency y^e Governor Rec^d an Order on y^e County Treasurer for y^e above

Thomas Motley Goal Keeper

The County of Cumberland to John Waite D^r May 1784

To serving several Towns & Plantations with an Order of Court for choosing Officers to collect Taxes £2.. 13.. 4

Receiv'd an Order on the County Treasurer for the above —

John Waite Sheriff

Petition of John Allan for Land in Pasamaquoddy.

To The Hon^{ble} the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Memorial of John Allan Late Superintendent of Indian Affairs in the Eastern Department in behalf of Himself & others

Humbly Sheweth

That your Memorialist in the Month of October 1766 was oblidge, in Consequence of the Contest between the United States & Britain to retire from Nova Scotia, leaving His family and a Valuable property, the former after much difficulty and Expence removed into this Country, and a great Part of the latter was destroyed by the Britains —

That in the Month of January following, Your Memorialist was appointed by the Hon^{ble} Congress Superintendent of Indian Affairs in Eastern Department, and soon after Commanding Officer of the Troops station'd at Machias, that to the End of the War His whole time was devoted to the said business, as well His family what Concern'd the Indians —

At the Conclusion of the War your Memorialist made report to His Excellency the Governor of this Commonwealth and the Hon^{ble} Congress, the State of the department and situation of the Eastern Country as it stood disputable respecting the boundarys with Britain, and altho' not discharged by this Government, View'd himself no further in a Military Capacity.— The Hon^{ble} Congress were pleased in June last to renew His Commission as Superintendent in Order to make a final settlement with the Indians, during the time of prosecuting this business, Your Memorialist Endeavour'd all in His Power to prevent the Subjects of the British King, settling on those Valuable Lands situated in the Bay of Passamaquody, known to be the Indubitable Right of this Commonwealth But Peace being now Settled it appears His Service is no more Necessary —

Your Memorialist has not received any Perquisite or Ammolument arising from His Situation & ranque in the Service, Except Pay and Rations a great part of which is still due, nor would he have given Your Honours this Trouble, had Nova Scotia, as was Expected, fell into the United States

Your Memorialist at an Early Period, was Averse to the form of the British Government, it was the principle Reason of Coming into the United States, to become a Citizen, nor does He ever intend to return under the Jurisdiction of the former — Your Memorialist is without any Personal Property within the United States, Except what is due for His Publick Services, Having at the sametime a large family to Provide for

Your Memorialist woud further beg leave, to Solicite in behalf of Three Officers and Fifeteen Soldiars who have Continued in the department during the War, as allso for Eighteen other persons, formerly Inhabitants of Nova Scotia

now in the States, for some lands in Consequence of their Services & Sufferings

Therefore your Memorialist Humbly Prays, that your Honours would be Pleased to take this under Consideration, and allow for a Settlement, to the several persons before mention'd, a Sufficiency of Lands in the Bay of Passamaquody, Agreeable to what in Your Honours Wisdom they may Marret and Deserve.

And Your Memorialist as in Duty bound will Ever Pray

J Allan

Boston June 2nd 1784

In Senate June 29th 1784

Read and thereupon Orderd, that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition agreeable to his request.

Attest Will^m Baker Jun^r Clk to the Senate

Order on the Petition of Pelatiah Warren & Others.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate July 2^d 1784

Order'd, that the petition of Pelatiah Warren & others, be committed to the Committee for examining into the claims to the unappropriated Lands in the County of York & Cumberland, appointed by a resolve of the General Court of May the first 1781; & that the said Committee be & they are hereby directed as soon as may be, to ascertain the just boundary lines of the several Plantations, mentioned in the said Petition, and to take a plan of the Gore or Tracts of Lands that may belong to this Commonwealth, situate between them or any of them, and make report thereof together with the quality & value of the same to the General Court at their next Session

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives July 2^d 1784

Read and concurred

Sam A Otis Spk^r

Report of Committee on Lands in the County of Lincoln.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

July 7, 1784

The Committee appointed, by a Resolve of the 28th of October last, to examine the Claims to the unappropriated lands in the County of Lincoln, &c, take leave to report.

that agreeable to a Resolve of the General Court of the 22^d of March last, they have contracted with a surveyor to lay out three townships, & lot the same, on the Northeast side of Penobscot river, between the lands claimed by the Indians & the upermost of the twelve townships, so called, which said three townships will soon be ready for sale.

the Committee report that, though, by their report of the third instant, they have described the extent, and boundaries of the patent made to Beauchamp & Leverett, yet as the extent and boundaries of the said patent are not agreed on or settled by Government, and the persons interested therein; and therefore it cannot be determined, what lands belong to Government, between the said patent, and the lands claimed by the Indians, till the said boundaries are settled, they have not sent a surveyor to locate the townships mentioned in last recited Resolve, between the river Penobscot and Kennebeck, finding, on further enquiry, that Government might incur a considerable expence, in laying out the said townships on lands, the property & title whereof, are not yet ascertained, & which no person, probably, would purchase at the full value, until the same be determined —

The Committee being persuaded, that Government are desirous of ascertaining with certainty the eastern boundary of

this Commonwealth, before they would incur the expence of laying out townships on the river St Croix; they have hitherto omitted to locate any lands on that river —

the Committee have particularly attended to the Circumstances of many of the twelve townships, so called, the conditions of the Grants thereof, the number of proprietors, & others settled thereon, with their settlements, & Improvements, and find that in the year 1762 the General Court of this then province granted twelve townships to a number of persons, upon condition, that they should, in eighteen months from the date of the grant, procure the approbation of the King of Great Britain, to said grants, and upon certain other conditions mentioned therein; that said term of eighteen months was several times lengthened for some of the grantees to procure the approbation of the King, but which however never was obtained by any of them; and that some of the other conditions of said grants have been performed by a part of the said grantees; that a number of the said grantees and others have settled upon said lands, principally, between the years 1764 & 1774, about five hundred heads of families who have erected buildings, & made considerable improvements; whence, the Committee are of opinion that the said grantees & settlers have, in strict law, no legal title to said lands, yet that it will be equity and good policy, in the Government, to quiet them, (making some few exceptions) in their possessions, on mild & favorable terms, and the Committee hope by the next Session of the General Court to compleat their enquiries respecting said twelve townships; & the circumstances of the said grantees, settlers & others concerned therein, and to be able to report to the General Court.

And the Committee find that there are a great number of settlers, who have entered upon the lands of the Commonwealth elsewhere erected buildings thereon, & made some im-

provements; many of whom have applied for a confirmation of their possessions to them, upon reasonable terms—respecting these settlers, the Committee are of opinion that those, who have applied or shall, personally apply to the General Court, for that purpose, have granted & confirmed to them said lands by them possessed, upon condition, they pay therefor, the value thereof, were they in a State of Nature.—

As to the other claims of individuals, or private Companies, to the said unappropriated lands which have been laid before the Committee, they will use all reasonable diligence to be in readiness to report at the next Sessions of the General Court—

Sam^l Phillips jun^r
Nathan Dane

In Senate July 9th 1784

Read & accepted

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives July 9th 1784

Read and concurred

Sam A Otis Spk^r

*Act empowering the Gov^r to renew the Licence of certain
Absentees*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts In the Year of our LORD
one thousand seven hundred & eighty four.

An Act empowering the Governor, with the Advice of Council, to renew the Licences of certain Persons therein mentioned to reside within this Commonwealth.

Whereas in Pursuance of an Act, intituled “An Act for repealing two Laws of this State, & for asserting the free & sovereign Right of this Commonwealth, to expell such Aliens as may be dangerous to the Peace & Good Order of Govern-

ment;" the Governor, with the Advice of Council, did, since the last Sessions of the General Court, grant Licences to George Spooner, John Amory, Thomas Oxnard, Nathaniel Chandler, Thomas Brattle, David Greene, & Isaac Winslow, to reside within this Commonwealth. And whereas, the said Licences will expire with the present Sessions of the General Court, & the Persons aforesaid be exposed to be sent out of this State, agreeable to the Provision made in the Act aforesaid. And whereas there will not be sufficient time & Opportunity for the General Court, in their present sessions, to inquire into the Characters & Conduct of the said Persons; Be it therefore enacted by the Senate & House of Representatives in General Court Assembled, & by the Authority of the same, that the Governor with the Advice of Council be, & he is hereby authorized & empowered to renew the said Licences, which Licences, being thus renewed, shall be, & continue in Force untill the third Wednesday of the next sitting of the General Court.

Resignation of Edw^d Grow.

York Sept^r 20th 1784

Sir,

As the Town of York was pleased to chuse me at their Annual Meeting in May last to represent them at the General Court I am under the necessity to resign my Office as Collector of Import & Excise for the County of York—You will please to communicate this to General Court that some person may be appointed in my Room—

I am, Sir, With great Esteem Your most Obed^t hble Serv^t
Edw^d Grow

In Senate Oct 15 1784

Read & sent down

S Adams Presid^t

John Avery jun^r Esq^r

Towns which have returned their valuation.

Marlboro, South Brimfield, Royalston, Weymouth, Chilmark, Lebanon, Milford, Westford, Greenfield, Truro, Chelsea, Douglas, Grafton, Hingham, Southampton, Palmer, Southboro, Shrewsbury, Stowe, Orange, Salem, Sylvester, Oakham, Lynn, Windham, Colerain, Sudbury, Bridgtown, Warwick, Wells, Pepperelboro, Greenwich, Gorham, Framingham, Stoneham, Templeton, Pepperel, Sutton.

Mr. Wyman's Petition.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To the Hon Senate & the Hon House of Representatives of
s^d Commonwealth in General Court Assembled —

The Petition of Nathaniel Wyman in behalf of the town of Georgetown and Bath, the former of which he has the Honor to represent.

humbly sheweth —

That the s^d Town being situated on the Sea Coast at the mouth of the Kennebec River have (during the war) been exposed to the depredation of the enemy in an uncommon manner

That from the dangers to which they were exposed they have frequently been obliged to support Guards at the entrance of the s^d River at their own expence, while the many alarms with which they were harrassed prevented their attending to the necessary support of their families.

That notwithstanding those distressing circumstances they readily complied with every requisition of Government untill the enemy got possession of Penobscut

That since that period their Coasting Vessells & fishing Boats have been all captured by the numerous british Cruisers which for a Series of four years past have con-

tinually infested the eastern Shores and their communication with the Western ports so far cut off that a Cord of Wood has been often sold by the inhabitants of those Towns to traders from the Westward for a pound of Coffee; a thousand of boards for a gallon of New England Rum & other things in proportion —

That taking these their distressed circumstances into consideration the Legislature repeatedly excused them from raising their quota of three years men for the army untill the further Order of that august Body, though they were at the same time required to raise their proportion of men for the defence of the County of Lincoln which they punctually and cheerfully perform'd besides being at the extra expence of supporting Guards for their own particular security & were often obliged to give private incouragement to the Troops raised in those Towns besides the wages allowed them by the General Court, for which extra expences They have never asked for any compensation for Government — that they have always borne their full proportion in raising the men aforesaid for the defence of said County but as they have lost all their Vessells, and been prevented from any fish or Lumber for four years past an enormous weight of back taxes now rests upon them & which they can never discharge without the aid of the Legislature your petitioner therefore humbly prays that the said Town may be exempted from paying the taxes assessed upon them for not procuring their three year three and five months men as in duty bound will ever pray

Nath Wyman

Petition of William Jones of Bristol.

To the Honor^{ble} Sennit and Hous of Representves in General
Court *Essenbled*

The Petition of William Jones of Bristol in the County of Lincoln in Behalfe of said town whereas it appears to your Petitioner that said town was over Rated in the Last taxt your petitioner Prayes that a Committee may be Chosen to acertain the Reasons How that town Could be taxd higher then any in that County and two towns stands much higher in the State bill or velowation — that said town may be re-
leved in such Way as you in Your Wisdom Shall think Best
and Your Petitioner as in Duty bound Shall Ever Praye

William Jones

Petition of Plantation of Raymonton.

To the Honorable Senate and the Honorable House of Representatives

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the Plantation called Raymontown humbly sheweth

That your Petitioners Find themselves at a very great Difficulty indeed

The Honorable Legislature has ordered a Tax on this Infant Plantation by what mistaken Information we cannot undertake to say — An Execution has been ordered and the sheriff of the County has been among us — which induced your Petitioners to send a Petition to the Honorable Court setting forth our Poverty and Inability to bear Publick Burdens or even as yet by our utmost Industry in this Cold Wilderness to Supply our Selves and Families with necessities of Life —

But to our Mortification we cannot Learn that the Honorable Court has taken any Notice of our Petition and Representation — Your Petitioners have therefore reason to conclude themselves under the most Disagreeable Imputation of Disobedience to Civil Government & of an Indisposition to that publick Duty ought to perform.

When the order of Court came for a valuation we were Determined to do everything in our Power to make the Honorable Court acquainted with the true State of this Plantation But on Enquiry we cannot find that there are more than five who are Quallified to vote in any Legal meeting according to the constitution notwithstanding we have thirty seven Poles ratable and not ratable and one hundred and seventy Women and Children —

We therefore humbly conceive that it is not possible for the Inhabitants of this Plantation to act in any Legal Meeting in the Choice of Assessors to conduct either publick or Private affairs however they may suffer on account of their condition not being properly Represented and Known.

Your Petitioners Beg leave to say that they cannot suppose it to be the Intention of the Legislature when Justly Informed to order publick taxes on Plantations in their Present Circumstances — As they conceive it to be expecting the Harvest as soon as the corn is planted ---

Your Petitioners therefore Pray that the Honorable Court would not Disregard their humble Petition but grant them such Direction and Relief as in their Wisdom Justice & Humanity Shall appear Suitable and Equitable and your Petitioners as in Duty bound Shall ever Pray

Joseph Dingley	}	Committee of the Plantation of Raymontown.
Thomas Crisp		

Petition of John Waite et al—Light House.

To the Honorable the Senate & House of Representatives of
the Common Wealth of Massachusetts in General Court
Assembled

The petition of the Owners & Masters of Vessells within
the County of Cumberland in behalf of themselves and Others
concern^d in Navagation Humbly Shew that a Light House in

much wanted near the Harbor of Falmouth which will render the Navigation much safer especially to Foreigners coming from Europe in the winter season it will also be an exceeding good guide to the Coasters as well as Fishermen and Consequently be a great benefit not only to this Common Wealth but also to the United States and what is most of all will be a means of preserving the lives of many of our sea faring Brethren Your petitioners relying on the Wisdom of their Rulers fully convinced that nothing will be wanting on their part to encourage the Navigation and Fishery of the United States of America Humbly pray your Honors would grant that a Light House may be erected near the aforesaid Harbor of Falmouth in such place as to your Honors may seem meet and your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray

John Waite, John Fox, John Kent, Tho: Robinson, Joseph M^cLellan, Hugh M^cLellan, Peleg Wadsworth, Richard Codman, Joshua Stone, David Smith, Seth Storer, W. Vaughan, Woodb^r Storer, James T. Noyes, Stephen Harding, Pearson Huntriss, Joseph Titcomb, James Phinney, Richard Codman Jun^r, Somers Shattuck, John Thorlo, Henry Webb, A. Lowell, Nath Moody, James Simonton, Stephen Codman, W^m Jolly, Benj^a Woodman, Rob^t Hilborn, Josiah Tucker, Daniel Riggs, Jack Randel, Will^m Harper, Edward Anderson, William White, James Lunt jun^r, Thomas Reed, John Bagley, Edward Watts, James Purrinton, Moses Noyes, Dan^l Murphy, John Scott, Tho^s Sandford William Hobby, Jn^o Archer, Dan^l Davis, Enoch Ilsley, Amos Greenleaf, Asa Stevens, William Green, Moses Plumer, Jonathan Morss, Lemuel Weeks, David Noyes, Hosea Ilsley, Enoch Freedman Jun^r, Jn^o Lowthor, Abijah Pool, John Kinney, John Tukey J^r, Benj^a Poland, David Brasdiah, Benj^a Titcomb Jun^r, Nathaniel F. Fosdick, James Fosdick James Jewett, George Peirce, Thos Motley, Joseph Barnard, G Warren, Joseph Jackman, Enoch Moody, Joseph Greenleaf

The Petition of Nicholas Crosby.

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and House of Representatives in
the Commonwealth of Massachusetts—

The Petition of Nicholas Crosby Humbly Sheweth that
he was an Inhabitant of Penobscot before and at the time
the British took Possession there, and in the year 1778 was
appointed by the Hon^{ble} General Court Naval Officer for that
port, but when the Enemy took Possession there your Peti-
tinor Rather than become Subject to British government left
his Interest and Came to Salem in this Common Wealth—
and has Resided there ever since—your Petitioner Now
Concludes to Return back to Penobscot to his littil Interest
left there and Humbly prays your Honours that he may be
Reinstated in his former office—and your petitioner as in
Duty bound Shall ever pray

Nicholas Crosby

Govr's Message.

Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of the House of
Representatives

Being prevented by indisposition from attending the Gen-
eral Court in person, I have directed the Secretary to lay
before you several Letters and Papers which I have received
during the Recess, among which is one from His Excellency
the Governor of South Carolina respecting the detention of
some Negroes here belonging to the Subjects of that State.
I have communicated it to the Judges of the Supreme Judi-
cial Court, their observations upon it is with the Papers, I
have made no reply to the Letter, judging it best to have your
Decision upon it—

The Secretary will also lay before you the Account of past Expenditures, & an Estimate of what Monies will be wanted to discharge the expenditures of the year 1784 —

I have called upon the Treasurer for the State of the Treasury, his observations thereon is with the Papers.

While I was preparing to carry into effect your Resolution respecting the repossession of Penobscot, such a Variety of Circumstances occur'd, which I was not Authoriz'd to decide upon, that I found it impossible for me to take any steps relative to it with ease to my own mind or Satisfaction to the Public, I was therefore under the necessity of suspending the matter, & leave it to be conducted according to the first Determination which was by giving Information to the nearest Magistrate, since which I have heard nothing, I am obliged therefore to refer it back to you for your final Decision.

I have the Satisfaction to inform you that the Light House at the Entrance of Boston Harbor has been some time Lighted, & has been of great Utility in the late Tempestuous & inclement Season, the accomplishing this is entirely owing to the very great Attention & Assiduity of the Commissary General, & from my own Observations of his earnest endeavors to compleat your Wishes, I cannot omit recommending to your Notice so Merritorious an Offer of Government.

The two Letters from Colonel Allen will give all the Information I have been able to collect respecting the Encroachments at the Eastern Parts of this Commonwealth, that Gentleman is now in Town, & Will be ready to attend if call'd upon —

I hope soon to have the Pleasure officially to lay before you the Definitive Treaty, as I shall every other matter of moment that may take place during your Session —

John Hancock.

Boston January 23^d 1784 —

Action on Petition of Pelatiah Warren.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate July 2^d 1784—

On the Petition of Pelatiah Warren and others

Ordered, That the Petition of Pelatiah Warren and others be committed to the Committee for examining into the claims to the unappropriated Lands in the County of York & Cumberland, appointed by a Resolve of the General Court of May the first 1781, and that the said Committee be and they are hereby directed, as soon as may be, to ascertain the just boundary lines of the several Plantations mentioned in the said Petition, and to take a Plan of the Gore or Tracts of Land that may belong to this Commonwealth situate between them or any of them, and make Report thereof, together with the quality and value of the same, to the general Court at their next Session—

Sent down for concurrence

S Adams Presid^tIn the House of Representatives July 2^d 1784

Read & concurred

Sam^l A Otis Spk^r

A true Copy

Attest Will^m Baker Jun^r

Clk to the Senate

Commonwealth of Massachusetts,

in the House of Representatives June 11th 1784.

On the petition of Pelatiah Warren &c, praying for a Grant of a Gore or Tract of land lying in the County of Cumberland, between the plantations of Bakerstown & Silvester, Northwesterly and Southeasterly, and Shepperdsfield & Androscoggin River Northeasterly & Southwesterly for What the same is worth in the present Wilderness State it lyes in &c.

riage has ever past — That the Greatest part of your petitioners were Possesst of but Trifleing intrests when they first adventured into this Wilderness that it has been and Still is with the Greatest difficulty that they obtain a Bare Support for their Own families, and not having any article of Commerce which they can Export are not able to make themselves the possessors of one single Doller in the Course of twelve months — That in Consequence of the above mentiond Tax being imposd your petitioners will be Obligd to dispose of all the Stock they now possess (which will not sattisfy s^d demands) and leaving their habitations Fly to such parts of the Common Welth where there is a Sirculation of Money; That the numerous difficulties with which your Petitioners are surrounded gives the Strongest hopes that they may be Viewd with tenderness and Compassion, Their most Earnest prayer therefore is that this Honourable Court would Free them from paying a publick Tax for the preasent, and give orders that s^d Execution be with drawn or that they may be Reliev^d in Such other manner as your Honours Wisdom may Sugest, and as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray

Reuben Burnam Jesse Knap.

Enoch Perley Benj^a Kimball

John Peabody

Govr's Message.

Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of the House of
Representatives

The Secretary has laid before me your several Resolutions relative to the final Establishment of Peace — By one of the Resolves "I am requested to order the discharge of Cannon, & such other Demonstrations of Joy on the 24th inst^t as I may judge suitable to the Occasion — This Resolve is so very

inexplicit that I am really at a loss to determine what the two branches of the General Court intend by such other Demonstrations of Joy — If you intend, Gentlemen, that they should be such as heretofore have been practiced upon such important Events, I must order a public Dinner to be prepared upon this Occasion; This was the Case upon the Proclamation of the very last Peace; or perhaps you may design that only such Provision should be made in the State House, for the Accommodations of such Gentlemen as shall please to attend as has been usual upon Public days; I return you the Resolve by the Secretary, & as I wish to Conduct this matter both through the day & Evening in such a manner as to meet your Approbation, I must request you would be pleased to be more explicit respecting it, & I doubt not you will enable me to exhibit such Demonstrations of Joy as shall be fully answerable to an Event so important & Interesting to this & the other United States —

John Hancock

Boston Feb^r 19th 1784.

Preservation of Lands in Eastern Counties.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate March the 5th 1784

Whereas on the 28th Day of Oct^r Last a Resolve was passed by the General Court appointing a Committee to repair to the County of Lincoln and to take care of the Commonwealth's Lands there and to settle with those persons who have claims to Land within that County and whereas it appears to the General Court that the Claims of Individuals to Lands in that County are very extensive and the Titles pretended to the same are very intricate by means whereof it would be unsuitable to place the power of the settlement

of such Claims otherwise than by a due Course of Law, in the arbitration of any other persons than the Legislature

It is therefore Resolved that so far as it respects the appointment and duty of the said Committee the Resolve aforesaid be and hereby is repealed

And it is also

Resolved that

be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to State and Lay before the General Court at the next Session thereof the extent of Lands Laying within the s^d County of Lincoln the Extent description and boundaries of all Claims of Properties Corporations or Companies of men to Land there, the Charters Patents Deeds or Grants such Proprietors Corporations or Company, the Real boundaries intended in the said Conveyances, as well as the boundaries by which the Claimers pretend to hold, and the quantities of Land in each Claim over and above what is justly within their Title and that the Committee hereby appointed procure authenticated Copies of all Conveyances of Lands Claimed by Proprieties Corporations or Companies within that County and lay the same before the General Court and that there be a warrant drawn upon the treasury in favor of the said Committee for a sum not exceeding pounds to Enable them to pay the Registers of Deeds and other Persons from whose offices they may receive Copies in the perfecting of the business aforesaid and for paying such Artist as shall be by them employed to make a plan if a plan shall be found necessary—the said Committee to be accountable for the same.

Resolved that

be and hereby are appointed a Committee to attend to all Grants made by the Government of this state of Lands in the County of Lincoln to inquire whether the Grantees have possessed themselves of more Lands than really intended in the Grants made and if any, how much, and to make a report

of the Result of their inquiry to the General Court as soon as may be

and also Resolved that

be and they hereby are appointed severally and Jointly to attend to the Commonwealth's Lands in the County of Lincoln to prevent the making strip and waste thereon and they are severally hereby required from time to time to find in writing to the Secretary's office the Name of each person who shall be found cutting or carrying away any Trees Lumber or Wood the place of abode and the addition of the person trespassing, the day, as near as the same can be ascertained when the trespass was Committed — the number and bigness of the Trees cut and the quantity of wood carried away in order that the General Court may give proper directions for the prosecution of such trespassers

Read and not accepted

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Jan' 31st 1784 —

Ordered that M^r Sullivan, M^r King & M^r Russell with such as the Hon Senate may join be a Committee to consider what further measures are necessary to be taken for the preservation of the public lands in the Eastern Counties & report

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Dalton Spk^r

In Senate February 2^d 1784

Read & Concurred & Charles Turner & William Lithgow jun^r Esq^r are joind

S Adams Presid^t

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Committee of both Houses appointed to consider what further measures are necessary to be taken for the preservation of the Publick Lands in the Eastern Counties, ask leave to report the Resolves accompanying

Charles Turner p^r Order

Respecting Continental Money.

The Committee of both Houses appointed to consider what Measures are necessary to be adopted in Regard to the old continental Money in the Treasury of this Commonwealth & in the Hands of the Subjects thereof have attended that service & ask leave to Report by way of Resolve

Nath Goodman p^r Order

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate March 10th 1784

Resolved that the sum of old continental Money now in the Treasury of this Commonwealth shall be charged to the United States in part payment of the continental Tax assessed in the year 1782 at the Rate of Seventy Five Dollars, for one hard Dollar ^A & that the several sums of old continental Money now in the Hands of the Citizens of this Commonwealth as soon as the sum shall be received into the Treasury thereof shall be charged to the United States in part payment of the said Tax & at the same Rate And in Order that the Holders of old continental Money being citizens of this Commonwealth may have Justice done them by receiving Governmental Securities or payment for the same in such other Way as the Legislature shall here-after determine & at the same Time to prevent the Reception into the Treasury of this Commonwealth of any sums of old continental Money now in the hands of the Citizens of other States. It is further Resolved that the Clerks of the several Towns, Districts & Plantations within this Commonwealth be & they hereby are directed & required to return into the office of the Secretary of this Commonwealth on or before the first day of June next true & exact Lists under Oath of all the Names of the Owners of the sum Total of old Continental Money already by them respectively returned into the said Office in pursuance of former Resolves for that pur-

pose with the particular sums belonging to each of them & affixed to their Names respectively

And it is further Resolved that the Secretary of this Commonwealth cause the Resolve to be immediately printed & as soon as may be furnish each of the Clerks aforesaid with a Copy thereof B

Read & Accepted with Amendment at A
at A, dele, from A to B

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

Jedediah Preble's Claim.

To the State of Massachusetts Bay to Jedidiah Preble D^r 1779 for Supply's for the Guards Stationed on Penobscott River by Order of Brig^r General Charles Cushion, Commanded by Maj^r William Lithgow —

(Amount of itemized bill 98 .. 15 .. 11)

Errors Excepted

Jedidiah Preble Jun^r

Penobscott Feb^r 21, 1780

This may Certify that in the year 1779 when I had the Command of a Party of Troops at Cambden and on Penobscot River M^r Jeded^h Preble was appointed Commissary to Supply said Party with Provisions, and did Supply us during our continuance at Penobscot and also came frequently from his home which was near thirty miles from where said Party was posted, to bring us Supplys, the exact quantity Supply'd I am not able to ascertain but it appears to me that the above Acco^t is a just one.

William Lithgow Jun^r

In Senate, March 11, 1784

Read & Committed to the Committee of Acct^s to be adjusted upon the best Evidence they can Collect —

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives March 12, 1784

Read & Concurred

Tristram Dalton Speaker.

March 15th 1784

Examined and allowed Ninety Eight pound Fifteen Shillings & Eleven pence in full of the within account —

E Starkweather, Charles Turner, J B Varnum

M^r Ivers please to pay the within Acct^t —

E Starkweather.

Received payment of Thomas Ivers Treasurer

p^r Joseph Boyd

A true Copy from the Original Lodg^d in this office and Filed against the United States —

John Deming, Peter Boyer } Committee

This is to impower Cap^t Joseph Boyd to Settle an Accto^t against the State of the Massach^{ts} Bay for Supplys to the Guard Posted on Penobscot River under the Command of Maj^r William Lithgow agreeable to Brig^r General Charles Cushings Warrant to me for that purpose

Jedidiah Preble Jun^r

Penobscott Sept^r 19, 1780

Test Jacob Tebbets Elisabeth Shute

A true Copy — John Deming, Peter Boyer.

Petition of Inhabitants of Bridgetown.

The Committee of both Houses to Whome was committed the petition of the inhabitants of Bridgetown praying for

abatement of taxes,—have attended the Service and ask
Leave to Report the following Resolve

Stephen Choate p^r order
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate March 12th 1784

Whereas it appears to this Court; that the inhabitants of the plantation called Bridgetown by reason of their local Situation, and the uncultivated State of their Lands, are unable to bear a full proportion of the public burthen. Resolved, that the Prayer of the said petition be So far granted, as that the Whole of the Sum Sett on the said plantation in the tax granted in March Last, to defray the charge of raising three years, three & five months men, ammounting to one hundred fifty four pounds three shillings & six pence be abated—And the Whole of the beef tax required of the Said inhabetants—And also one third part of all other taxes Granted to be assessed on the Said plantation Since the year Seaventeen Hundred eighty one—And it is further Resolved that the treasurer be and he is hereby directed to credit the aforesaid plantation accordingly—and recall the execution issued against the Said Inhabetants for their deficiencies in their beef tax any Law or Resolve to the contrary notwithstanding

Read and Accepted

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives March 12, 1784

Read & Non Concurred Tristram Dalton Spk^r

Re: Petition of Hugh Hill.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives in
General Court Assembled—

Humbly Shews

Hugh Hill that in the year 1777 Col^o John Allen was commissioned and empowered by the Government of this State to purchase certain Vessels for the use of the State and to contract therefor in their name & behalf — that in April in the same year he purchased of your petitioner a schooner for the sum of £133..6..8 for which he gave his note of hand payable on demand with interest that on 29th of October last the principal of said note was paid in a due bill so called of that amount but that no interest hath been paid on said note — which in the long absence of your petitioner hath been mislaid but that such a note was given & that the interest hath not been will appear by the papers herewith exhibited & other evidence —

Wherefore your petitioner prays that he may be paid the interest that became due on said note from the date thereof to the time the principal sum thereof was paid and as in duty bound will ever pray —

Hugh Hill

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives March 13th 1784

On the petition of Hugh Hill setting forth that in April A. D. 1777 Col^o John Allen purchased of him a Schooner for one hundred & thirty three pounds six shillings & eight pence for the public use & gave his note of hand therefor, payable on demand, with interest, that the principal was paid in October last; but that no interest hath been paid; & that said note is mislaid; & praying that the interest due on said note may be paid —

Resolved there be paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth to the said Hugh Hill the sum of fifty two pounds in full of the interest due on said note and in full of all demands the said Hill hath or may have against this Commonwealth or said Allen for said schooner —

Sent up for concurrence

Tristram Davis Spk^r

Newburyport June 29 1785

this May Certify Whom it may Concern that we Agree^d with Stephen Hooper Esq^r some time about the month of February or March 1777 in behalf of Col^o John Allan for A small Schooner for said Allan to Carry on the Publick Business Committed to him

that Coll Allan Inform us he had Given M^r Hooper his Not for the same payable half in hard Money the other in paper

that some time after Coll Allen Inform^d us we had order^d Money into our hands which Should it prove more than sufficient to pay our Selves the Remainder to be Paid M^r Hooper but as that Money did not come into our hands to our Best Remembrance we never Paid M^r Hooper any part

Stepⁿ Cross Ralph Cross Jun^r

These may Certify that in April 1777, The Subscriber purchased a schooner from Cap^t Hugh Hill for the sum of £133—6—8, Giving a note of hand for the same on Interest—which schooner was for the use of the United States in the service of the Indian Eastern Department, and the Interest not yet paid Cap^t Hill

J Allan Superind^t
Indian Eastern Dep^t

Boston January 30th 1782

Govr's Message.

Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of the House of Representatives

Whenever a doubt arises in my own mind with respect to any Law, the Execution of which is committed to me, I feel a great Satisfaction in having it in my power to make Application where I am confident of finding relief; & for that pur-

pose, I beg leave for a moment to draw the Attention of the two branches of the General Court to a Law pass'd July 2^d 1783 intituled "an Act to carry into Execution an Act made in the Year 1778, intituled An Act to prevent the return of certain Persons" &c By which Act I am obliged upon the Certificate of the Justices having committed to Goal any person or Persons the Objects of that Law immediately, or as soon as may be, at the expence of the Commonwealth, to cause such persons so committed to be transported to some part or place within the Dominion of the King of Great Britain &c under this predicament I have now in Custody Several persons, two in the Goal in this Town, two in the Goal in Worcester, & one in the Goal in Falmouth, County of Cumberland; I am ever ready to carry into effect the Laws of the Commonwealth, & as I am to presume it is the Design of the two Branches of the Gen Court that the Law above recited should be executed without any reserve, I am to request they will furnish me with the means of providing for the Transportation of those persons who may come within the said Law, by Authorizing a Warrant upon the Treasurer for such a sum as you shall judge competent —

John Hancock

Council Chamber Boston March 19th 1784

Govr's Message.

Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of the House of Representatives

I have directed the Secretary to lay before you for your perusal a Letter with its inclosures from the President of Congress respecting the Encroachments that are represented to them to have been made by British Subjects, at the Eastern parts of this Commonwealth, I have heretofore receiv'd

a Letter from the Governor of Halifax upon the subject, & from the Disposition discover'd in that Letter I have no doubt but he will be ready to accommodate the matter to the Satisfaction of both States. I have also directed the Secretary to lay before you the Result of the doings of the Governor & Council heretofore upon the same Subject. I shall take the earliest Opportunity to open a Correspondence with Governor Parr at Halifax, & use my best Endeavors to bring this matter to as Speedy & happy an issue as possible agreeable to a request of Congress—To effect which I request you will be pleased to return me the papers transmitted me by Congress when most agreeable to you—

John Hancock

Council Chamber Boston March 19th 1784

Re: Georgetown & Bath.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Represent^t March 22nd 1784

On the Petition of Nathaniel Wyman, in behalf of the Towns of Georgetown & Bath, praying the said Towns may be exempted from the payment of the Taxes assessed on them for not procuring their proportion of Three years, three & five months men—for the Reasons sett forth in said Petition—

Resolved, that the Treasurer be, and he hereby is Ordered and directed to Credit the Town of Georgetown the sum of seven hundred & forty one pounds 11/3—and the Town of Bath the sum of four hundred & six pounds 16/0 being so much assessed on them for not procuring their proportion of Three years, three & five months men, any Resolve to the contrary notwithstanding—

Govr's Message.

Gentlemen of the Senate and Gentlemen of the House of
Representatives

Embarrass'd as I find myself to be for want of Time to Consider the important Bills which were laid before me yesterday Afternoon, I however feel a Disposition to submit to take upon my self a Burden plac'd upon me by one of them which I had the greatest Claim to be Excus'd from rather than the two Houses should be subjected to the inconvenience of remaining Sitting, when their wishes are so urgent to return home — I therefore will not make any Objections to the Bill intituled "An Act for repealing two Laws of this State, and for Asserting the rights of this free, sovereign Commonwealth to Expell such Aliens as may be dangerous to the Peace and good order of Government" And as the Import and Excise Act which was yesterday laid before me to which I have objections in its present mode, does not take place till the 15th of June next, and consequently no Prejudice can arise by the delay of its passing 'till next Session; I am under that Circumstance now ready to Comply with the request of the Two Branches of the General Court for a recess and will direct the Secretary to proceed accordingly if the two Houses Consent to the Suspension of that Bill —

John Hancock

Boston March 25th 1784.

Petition of Thomastown.

To the Hon^{ble} Senate & House of Representatives of the
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Whereas William Larmond of the town of Waren in the County of Lincoln Having presented a petition To This Honorable Court Requesting that a Carting Tract or pease

of Land of his Lying in Thomaston may be taken of from the said Thomaston and Adjourned to the said town of Warren —

We your Petteioners in behalf of the said Thomaston Humbly shew that whereas the town of Warren being the oldest incorporated town included part of the Lands Which is now the town of Thomaston by reason of the said Thomaston being too Small for a town Ship the Honorable Court Saw fit to take so much of the town of Warren as to make the town of Thomaston Convenient Which Land the said Larmond now Requests being part of the Land that has ben in Warren heartofore — but after the Incorporation of both the Towns and the Division being run Sum years the said Larmond Purchased the now Requested Land Which is in Thomaston and therefore we hope your honours will take it into your wise Consideration the unreasonableness of the request and the Damage it must be to us as a town and we your Petitioners are Ever bound in Duty to Pray

Oliver Robins Jun ^r	}	Select men
John Simonton		of
Sam ^l Brown		Thomaston

Petition of Town of Oxford.

Common Welth Of Massachusetts To the Honourable the Senate & house of Representatives of the Common Welth Affore Said —

The petition of the inhabitants of the Town of Oxford humbly Sheweth —

That altho the good people of this Common Welth have by the kind hand of Divine providence been preserved Through a Long Unatural & Cruel War and arived to the Injoyment of the blessings of peace in Our borders. And

altho. in addition to the blessings affore said we are Favoured with a good frame of Governments yet there are Certain matters of grievance which this Common Welth Labour under and this town as part of the same which We think may and Ought to be Redressed of which we Shall mention to your Honnours The following (Viz) 1st—Giving the impost into the hands of the Hon^{ble} The Continental Congress to be under their Sole Controul Wee Conceive to be a grievance and in Our Opinion—Ought to be immediately Repealed—Not but that we Are free and willing that an impost on all imported Articles Should immediately take place—but the proceeds thereof Ought to be paid into the State treasury And in a Constitutional way Drawn Out by a Warrant From the Governor of this Common Welth and if Apropriated to Congress or any part thereof it Ought To be set to the Credit of this State that we may Receive the benefitt of the same, which we Conceive No State in the Union has any Just Right To—

2nd—Wee Conceive that the Expence of Days of publick Rejoycing Ought not to be paid out of the publick Chest but ought to be paid by those who partake of The Same, and not by this Common Welth at Large

3rd Making large Grants to the Officers of the late Continental Army or Officers of the publick—

More than a reasonable pay for their services Wee Conceive a greivance—and under Our present Circumstances ought not to Be—And where Ever any have been made theretofore the acc^t To be reconsidered—for in Our Opinion the Grants—Heretofore made Cannot be more binding on the good People of this Common Welth than that of the Redemption of the Old Continental money—which in Our Opinion most Earnestly Ought to be Urged By the General Court and that No grants of Further Sums of Money be

made to the Congress until the Other States in the Union Shall Comply with the Redemption of said money and that his Excelency the Governor be Requested not to sign Any war-rat on the Treasurer of this Common Welth for the remainder of the four Hundred thousand pounds which now is Assessed and paid Or to be paid Into the treasury — Untill a Redress be Obtained

4th — That the good people of this State are Greatly Oppressed & Distressed for want of a proper Ballance of a Circulating Mediam and that the Credit of this State Greatly Suffers from No Other Cause than the Necessities of the people and by Reason Of the State holding the property of Individuals — and so bind one part of the people Whereby the Other part make their Necessities Their Oppertunities — which much Agrieves the Good people of this State —

And we pray that ways and means may be Found Out for Our Relief —

We your Humble petitioner pray your Honnour To take these Matters into your wise Consideration And grant such Relief in your wisdom May See Just and Reasonable —

Your petitioners as in Duty bound Shall Ever Pray —

John Mayo	}	Selectmen of the Town of Oxford.
Samuel Davis		
Daniel Fisk		
John Dana		
Ebenezer Learned		

Oxford May 14th 1784 — By a Vote of
this Town at a Meeting Legally Warned

Annexation of St Georges Lower Town to Warren.

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and House of Representative of
the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. June, 1784
The Petition of the Subscribers Inhabitants of a Tract of

Land, being part of the Plantation called the lower Town of St Georges in the County of Lincoln Humbly Sheweth, That, we find ourselves greatly exposed to many Difficulties, & suffering many Inconveniences which we apprehend might be relieved by an Incorporation; but being small, & no other Lands that we can conveniently (for us) be incorporated with

Therefore your Petitioners humbly pray That our Lands, Bounded as followeth viz. Beginning at the Southeasterly Corner of the Town of Warren on the westerly Side of St Georges River, thence running southwesterly down said River about one Mile & three Quarters to the southeasterly Corner of Lot Number Sixteen belonging to Andrew Malcom, thence west-northwest about four Miles to Waldoborough Line, thence northerly by said Line, to the southwest Corner of Warren, thence east &c. by said Warren to the Bound first mentioned, may be annexed to the said Town of Warren, and that we with the Inhabitants thereof may be invested with the Powers, Priviledges & Immunities, that Towns in this Commonwealth do enjoy; and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c.

Jonathan Nuttin,	Seth Vose
Richard Young,	Micah packard
Jacob Hiler,	Andrew Malcom
Simon Hiler	John Mcorber

Petition of Samuel Pendleton.

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and Hon^{ble} House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court Assembled at Boston June 1784

The Petition of Samuel Pendleton for himself and in the behalf of a Number of other Settlers on Long Island in Penobscot Bay,—Humbly Sheweth,

That it is now about Thirteen Years since they Settled upon said Long Island, where they have Built Houses and been at considerable Cost and Expencc in Settling especially during the late War,

That lately one Winslow has wrote down informing that he intends to come down and take care of his Lands there, on caring among other Lands, the said Long Island, But your pet^{rs} have always understood that the said Long Island was Government Lands, and not included in Brigadier Waldo's patent, and your pet^{rs} intended to Account with Government for the same, and would now be glad if the said Lands are to be Sold that they may have the refusal of the same.

Your pet^{rs} therefore humbly pray that this Hon^{ble} Court would be pleased to Quiet them in their possessions, they allowing a reasonable Price for said Lands

And as in duty bound shall pray &c

Samuel Pendleton

In the House of Representatives June 14th 1784

Read & thereupon Ordered that this petition be committed to the Committee appointed by the County of Lincoln

Sent up for concurrence

Sam A Otis Spk^r

In Senate July 9th 1784

Read & Concurred

S. Adams Presid^t

Petition of a Number of Masters of Coasting Vessels.

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and Hon^{ble} House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled at Boston June 1784.—

The Petition of the Subscribers Masters of Vessels that follow the Business of Coasting to the Eastward Humbly Sheweth,

That they meet with many discouragements in carrying on their said Business by reason that they can't obtain Permits to Sell Rum &c in less Quantities than Twenty five Gallons, as many of the Poor People at the Eastward are not Able to purchase but a few Gallons, and some not more than half a Gallon, And besides they often trust the Inhabitants with Rum and other Articles to be paid in Lumber at some future day, when those People can't often obtain Credit from any of the Retailers there.—

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray for the more Easy carrying on their said Business, and for the convenience of the Inhabitants at the Eastward, that this Honorable Court would be pleased to Authorise the Collector of Excise to Grant them permits to Sell Rum to the Inhabitants at the Eastward in small Quantities or by Retail they accounting with the Collector for the Duty thereon.—

And as in duty bound shall pray &c.

Nickels Millar,	Robert millar,	James Nickels,
Samuel Boyd,	Thomas Meryman,	Henrey Littell,
Arch ^d Rivers,	Samuel Harris,	Cornelius Bradford
Will ^m Harper,	James M ^c Curdy,	.

The Petition of Juniper Berthiaume.

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and Hon^{ble} House of Representatives
of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General
Court Assembled at Boston, June, 1784 —

The Petition of Juniper Bartheaune Humbly Sheweth,

That on the 11th day of November 1780, the General Court of this State, appointed your petitioner Instructor to the Penobscot Tribe of Indians with an Allowance of Five pounds p^r month and two Rations per day till the further order of the General Court.—

That he has continued in said Service ever since, and on the first day of June Instant there was one years pay & Rations due to him at the rate aforesaid for his said Services

He therefore humbly prays this Hon^{ble} Court would be pleased to make him a Grant of the Years Wages and Rations now due to him, that he may still be enabled to live with the said Indians in his aforesaid Capacity

And as in duty bound shall pray &c

f^r juniper Berthiaume, Recollet

Petition of Juniper Berthiaume.

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate and Hon^{ble} House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court Assembled at Boston June 1784

The Petition of Juniper Bartheaume Humbly Sheweth,

That on the Eleventh day of November 1780, the General Court of this State appointed your petitioner Instructor to the Penobscot Tribe of Indians, with an allowance of Five pounds p^r Month, and two Rations per day.—

That since his Arrival in Boston he has been informed “that he was dismissed from said Service.” of such dismissal (if it be true) your petitioner never before had any notice either by Writing or any other way, for had he known it he would have retired from said Service, but thinking himself really in the Employ of this State he has continued therein ever since, and on the first day of June Instant there was one years pay and Rations due to him— And as he was never informed of his Dismission.

He humbly prays this Hon^{ble} Court would be pleased to take his case into their Wise and just consideration and Grant that he may be allowed the pay and Rations due to him for his Services aforesaid— And as in duty bound shall pray &c

f^r juniper Berthiaume Recollet

Petition of Tho^s Oxnard.

To the honorable the Senate, and House of Representatives
in General Court assembled —

Thomas Oxnard humbly shews that he is the same person, who hath been lisenced by his Excellency the Governor & Council, to remain within this State, until the close of the present session of this General Court—your petitioner humbly represents that he is not within either of the descriptions of men, whose naturalization as citizens is prohibited by the laws of the commonwealth — that he was an inhabitant of the Territory, now the state of Massachusetts, before the late resolution, and prays to become again an inhabitant thereof, and a free citizen of this commonwealth —

Certificates of the character of your petitioner are lodged in the Council Chamber, upon those certificates & such other evidence as your petitioner can produce, under your honors direction, in favor of his proving a good Citizen of the commonwealth, your Petitioner humbly supplicates your honors for an act of naturalization of your Petitioner as a citizen of this commonwealth; and as in duty bound shall ever pray —

Tho^s Oxnard

Falmouth 1st June 1784

Act Regulating Proceedings of Proprietors of Townships.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts — In the Year of our Lord
One Thousand Seven Hundred & eighty four

An Act Regulating y^e Proceedings of Proprietors of Townships or new Plantations, granted by the General Court,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court Assembled, and by the Authority of the same; That the Proprietors of Townships or New Plantations granted, or which may be granted by the General Court,

be and hereby are and shall be vested with the same powers and privileges as Proprietors of lands Wharves & other real Estate undivided and lying in Common are by Law vested with, so far as the same do relate to the calling and holding of their Meetings, and choosing Needful Officers (who shall be sworn as in the s^d act directed. to the faithful discharge of their Officers) and for granting taxes upon their lands in such Townships & Plantations for the purpose of carrying forward and promoting the Settlement of them — Provided that the first future Meeting shall be notified in one of the Boston News Papers at least three Weeks before the day of Meeting, and in such other paper as they shall judge most likely to give the Proprietors in general due information thereof.

And be it further enacted by the Authority Aforesaid that when any Grantee or Proprietor of any such new Plantation or Township, which hath been, or shall hereafter be so granted (where the Conditions of the Grant are not fulfilled) shall neglect or delay to pay to the Treasurer or Committee of such Township or Plantation, such Sum or Sums of Money as by the Proprietors thereof have been or shall be voted to be raised by tax upon their said Lands or rights, for thirty days after such tax shall be published by posting the same in some public place in the shire Town of the County wherein such lands lie, and in the Town wherein the Clerk of such Proprietors shall dwell, as also in such other Town or Towns as have been, or shall be by them appointed for that purpose and by advertising the same in one of the Boston Newspapers, the Share or right of such delinquent Grantee or Proprietor may be sold; And the Committee chosen by such Proprietors, or the Major part of such Committee may, and hereby are fully empowered at a public Vendue (Notice thereof being publickly given in one of the s^d News Papers and by posting the same as aforesaid at least three weeks successively before

such Vendue) to sell such delinquents' lots and after-Rights in such Plantation or Township, to such person or persons as may appear to give most for the same, and will give Bond to the Satisfaction of the Committee, or other persons appointed by the General Court to take Bond, for the performance of the Conditions of the original Grant; and the original Grantee shall have his former Bond given up and delivered to him, if he desire the same; the Money arising by such Sale to be applied to the payment of such delinquent Proprietors Rate or Tax; and the Overplus, if any there be (after all Charges arising about the same are deducted) shall be paid, to the said delinquent Proprietors, his heirs or Assigns.

Provis^o A Provided always, If any such delinquent Proprietors are not Inhabitants of this Commonwealth, that then there be reserved to them, their Heirs or Assigns, a Liberty of Redemption of such Rights; they paying the Purchaser or Purchasers, or his or their respective heirs, within Six Months, such Sum as the Lands Sold for, with the Costs arisen by Improvement made thereon, and double Interest, untill the same be redeemed.—

Proviso Provided Also, That where any delinquent Proprietor or Grantee has brought forward a Settlement, and is in the Actual Possession of his Right, that then and in such case so much only, and no more, of his Right, shall be Sold as may be Sufficient to defray such Proprietor's or Grantee's Rate or Tax, and the charges arising on the sale And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid that the said Committee or the Major part of them shall be and hereby are empowered to execute (agreeable to the intention of this Act) a good deed or Deeds to the Purchaser or Purchasers of the Land Sold as aforesaid.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid that at every meeting of the Proprietors the votes shall be collected and numbered according to the Interests of such as

are present, where the same is known: and at any such Meeting, they may agree upon and appoint any other way or method than the one referred to in this Act, for calling and notifying Meetings for the future, that shall be most suitable and convenient to the Proprietors

In the House of Representatives June 23^d 1784 —

This Bill having had three several Readings passed to be Engrossed with amendment at A

Sent up for concurrence

Sam A Otis Spk^r

viz at A

Dele the Paragraph from A to B & insert

Provided always, That there be reserved unto such delinquent Proprietor or Proprietors, their Heirs or Assigns, a liberty of Redemption of such Rights, they paying the Purchaser, or Purchasers, or his or their respective Heirs, within Two Years such sum as the Lands sold for — with the Costs arisen by Improvements made thereon, and double Interest, untill the same be redeemed, except the Proprietor, or Proprietors, shall happen to be beyond Sea at the time of such Sale, in which case the said Proprietor or Proprietors, shall be allowed Three Years for Redemption of such Lands sold in manner aforesaid.—

Petition for Grant of Tract of Land on the River Cobscook.

To The Hon^{ble} the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Petition of the Subscribers in behalf of themselves and others,

Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioners have been Employed, in the service of their Country, in the Late Revolution, and flatter them-

selves to the Approbation of their fellow Citizens. The happy Period of Peace having arrived, your Petitioners with pleasure return to Civil Society & Employment, desirous and Anxious to sett down in such a situation as to help their familys & be Serviceable to the Community.

Therefore your Petitioners, humbly prays, that your Honours woud take it under Consideration, and Grant them a Tract of Land on the River Cobscook in the Bay of Passamaquaddy, in such Quantity, & upon such Terms, as in your Honours wisdom may think proper, And your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever Pray—

Boston June 21st 1784

John Crane, Thos Vose, William Perkins, Lemuel Prescott, George Ingersoll, Cettarshall, Aaron Pardee, Eben^r Brown, John R Stafford, W Tucker, A^b Warren, David Mason, Ezra Smith, David Jackson, John Tapkin, Edward White, Thomas Wells, Jn^o Lillie, Paul D Sargent, Tho^o Jackson, John Callender, Edward Blake, J Woodbridge, Jn^o Peirce, W^m Frothingham, Jno K. Smith.

In the House of Representatives June 29th 1784

Read & thereupon Ordered that this petition be committed to the Committee appointed by a Resolve of the 20th of Oct^o last to do certain business in the County of Lincoln

Same day Read again & ordered that the Petitioners at their own request have leave to withdraw their petition.

House Journal.

Wednesday, June 30th 1784 Present in Senate.

Order of the house that M^r Robbins & M^r Sullivan with such as the hon Senate may join be a Committee to consider what further measures are necessary to be taken relative to the British Encroachments in the Eastern parts of this Commonwealth.

Read & Concurred and Theodore Sedgwick Esq^r is joined—

Report of the Committee of both houses to whom was referred the consideration of the Petition of Phillips White Esq^r & the Answer of Will^m White thereto & the papers accompanying the same by way of Resolve—Sent down for Concurrence, Came up non-Concurred —

The Secretary came into Senate & communicated a Message from his Excellency the Gov^r (Vide Message) Resolves of Congress of the 3^d inst. accompanying—Read & Sent down

Ordered that the Secretary be directed to lay upon the Senate Table the register of Council

Ordered that the Treasurer be directed to attend this board — (to be enquired of — whether he has one or more of the reports of the Committee on the late Treas Gardiners Acc^{ts} in his Office)

Order of the house on the Message of his Excellency the Gov^r that this Message be Comitted to the Committee of both houses appoint^d yesterday to consider what further measures are necessary to be taken with respect to the British encroachments on the Eastⁿ parts of this State to consider & report & what may be proper to be done thereon—Read & Concurred

An Engrossed Bill entitled “An Act for Naturalizing Tho^s Robison”—This Bill having had two several readings passed to be Enacted —

An Engrossed Bill entitled “An Act directing the proceedings against forcible entry & detainer” This Bill having two several readings passed to be Enacted.—

An Engrossed Bill entitled “An Act regulating Bail in Civil Actions” This Bill having had two several readings passed to be enacted —

Resolve of the House on the representation of John Lucas Com^r of Pensioners in behalf of Cap^t Sam^l Clark entitling

the said Clark to one 8th part of pay as Captain—Read & Concurred

Report of the Committee of both houses to whom was referred the Consideration of the Petition of David Nye of Wareham that the further consideration of this Petition be referred to the next sitting of the Gen^l Court Read & Accepted & Ordered to be refer'd accordingly—sent down for Concurrence Came up Concurred.

Ordered that Caleb Strong & John Lowell Esq^r with such as the hon house may join be a Committee to confer with the hon M^r Jefferson one of the Commissioners of the United States for settling treaties of Commerce & give him such information relative to the Trade & Territory of this State as he may wish to have & may be usefull to this & the United States Sent down for Concurrence Came up Concurred & M^r Otis M^r Phillips & M^r Rowe are joined—

A Bill entitled “an Act for regulating the fees & forms in the Naval Offices within this Commonwealth”—Read the 2^d time & passed a Concurrence to be engrossed with amendments at A & X—sent down for Concurrence Came up Concurred—

Bill explaining the Laws Respecting the Assessment of Taxes.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the year of our Lord one thousand Seven Hundred and eighty four.

An Act for explaining the Laws respecting the Assessment of Taxes.

Whereas Doubts have arisen whether Assessors can be justified in making their Assessments in any Case, for more than the precise Sum committed to them to assess. Therefore,

Be it enacted, by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the Same, That the Laws of this Commonwealth, now in force, respecting Assessments of Taxes, on Towns, Districts Plantations and Parishes, ought to be so construed, explained and understood, as to render Assessors justifiable, in their having assessed Such a Surplusage, over and above the Sums committed to them respectively to assess, as any fraction arising in making the assessment may have amounted to, or Such as, in their judgment was needful to make up for any deficiency, which might probably arise from the abatements, of the Taxes of particular persons, which it might be found necessary to make; and that the assessors of any Town, District, Plantation or Parish, shall not be liable to any Suit in Law, for having assessed any Surplusage as afore Said, they making Oath, before some Justice of the Peace, in the county to which Such assessors belong, that they have assessed an additional Sum as before mentioned, no greater than a fraction arising in making the assessment rendered convenient, or no greater than they really judged necessary for Supplying the deficiency, which might be reasonably expected to arise from the abatements, which must in the ordinary Course of things be made.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that when the surplusage assessed as before mentioned, in any Town, District, Plantation or Parish, Shall be found to be more than adequate to the amount of the abatements, which it has been found necessary to make, the overplus Shall be paid into the Treasury of Such Town, District, Plantation or Parish, to be at the Order and disposal of the Same

X In Senate July 2^d 1784

Read the first time—

Read the Second Time & ordered that the further con-

sideration of the Bill be referrd to the next Sitting of the General Court.

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams, Presid^t

Petition of Pelatiah Warren & Others.

To the Hon^{ble} Senate & the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled at their May session 1784—

The Petition of the Subscribers humbly sheweth that your petitioners were chiefly brought up and accustomed to husbandry business, and having but small fortunes to set out in the World with, cannot purchase Farms already subdued and under cultivation, and being willing to labour, and do our share in clearing & cultivating the Wilderness.—

Therefore pray the honorable Court would grant us a Gore or Tract of Land in the County of Cumberland, between the Plantations of Bakers-town & Silvester northwesterly & Southeasterly, & Sheperdsfield and Androscoggin River Northeasterly & South westerly, for what the same is worth in the present wilderness state it lays in, and such other restrictions as shall be thought proper & Your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.—

May 26th 1784

Trustram Warren, Daniel Cooper, Tobias Ricker, Pelatiah Warren, Benjamin Parker Jun^r, Lemuel Megray Elias Durlis Micale Dyer, James Wagg Jun^r, Benjamin Finning, John Cushing, Joshua Strout, Nat Garist John Winslow, William Gerish, Nathaniel Garish, George Garish Jun^r Ichabod Warren, Jacob Lord Jun^r, Amos Goodwin, Andrew Elliot, Edmund Warren, Edmund Neal, Nathaniel Walker, Silas Goodwin, Dominius Goodwin, Thomas Bragdon 3^d Elisha Hill jun^r, John Plaisted—

Action on Petition of Pelatiah Warren.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate July 2^d 1784 —

On the Petition of Pelatiah Warren and others

Ordered, That the Petition of Pelatiah Warren and others be committed to the Committee for examining into the claims to the unappropriated Lands in the County of York & Cumberland, appointed by a Resolve of the General Court of May the first 1781, and that the said Committee be and they are hereby directed, as soon as may be, to ascertain the just boundary lines of the several Plantations mentioned in the said Petition, and to take a Plan of the Gore or Tracts of Land that may belong to this Commonwealth situate between them or any of them, and make Report thereof, together with the quality and value of the same, to the general Court at their next Session —

Sent down for concurrence

S Adams Presid^tIn the House of Representatives July 2^d 1784

Read & concurred

Sam^l A Otis Spk^r

A true Copy

Attest

Will^m Baker Jun^r

Clk to the Senate

Commonwealth of Massachusetts,

in the House of Representatives June 11th 1784.

On the petition of Pelatiah Warren &c, praying for a Grant of a Gore or Tract of land lying in the County of Cumberland, between the plantations of Bakerstown & Silvester, Northwesterly and Southeasterly, and Shepperdsfield & Androscoggin River Northeasterly & Southwesterly for What the same is worth in the present Wilderness State it lyes in &c.

Resolved that the Prayer of the said petitioners be So far Granted that Nathan Dane John Hill Esq^r & M^r Benjamin Hooper be a Committee to Ascertain the Quantity and value thereof, and Report as soon as may be, that the same may be Granted to the said Petitioners, and Under Such Restrictions as the General Court May then Order —

Sent up for concurrence

Sam A Otis Spk^r

In Senate July 2^d 1784.

Read & Noncurred

S Adams Presid^t

Re: Eastern Boundary.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate July 9, 1784

Resolved that Col^o John Allen be added to the Agents appointed at the present setting of the General Court, to pursue measures respecting the British encroachments on the eastern boundary of this Commonwealth, & to transact certain business with the Indians on Penobscot River — and, that any three of the said Agents be authorized to execute their Commission.

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives July 9th 1784

Read & concurred as taken into a new Draft.

Sent up for Concurrence

Sam A Otis Spk^r

In Senate July 9th 1784.

Read & Non concurred & the Senate adhere to their own vote

S Adams Presid^t

Selectmen of Harpswell Petition.

State of Mass^a The Hon^{ble} Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled.

The Petition of the Select men of Harpswell humbly sheweth, That it has ever been the practice of this Town for the Sake of Conveniency to chuse a Constable & Collector for an Island called great Sebascodegin, & another for the whole of the other Part of said Town; That at the last Annual March Meeting a Person was chosen Constable & Collector for the whole Town excepting s^d Island, who availing himself of some Inadvertency which happened to take place is exempted; that upon an Adjournment of s^d Meeting another was chosen, who also is cleared, upon which account there is neither Constable nor Collector in the Town excepting one upon the aforesaid Island, in Consequence of which a great Difficulty has arose, & still likely to increase—The March Meeting not being in Existence, your Petitioners humbly pray that this Hon^d Court would enable said Town to chuse a Constable & Collector for that part of the Town as usual which is destitute. And your Petitioners as in Duty bound, shall ever pray.

John Rodick, Ezekiel Curtis } Selectmen
Harpswell 23 Aug. 1784.

Re Light House Money From the Port of York.

York August 25th 1784

Sir:

I take this oppertunity by my Good Brother Judge Sewall to present with the trifleing Sum of a Guinea for Lighthouse Money from the Port of York, tho it is Sonething more than I have as yet rec^d which please to Carry to the Credit of S^r your Most Humb^l Serv^t £1 .. 8 .. 0

Rich^d Trevett, Naval Officer

P. S. S^r at the Close of the Year I Purpose, by the Leave
of Providence to render an acc^t of my Proceedings—

Thos Ives Esq^r Treasurer

Petition of Inhabitants of Scarborough.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

To the Honb^{le} the Senate and the Honb^{le} the house of Representatives in General Court assembled This 13th Day of
October 1784—

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the first Parish in Scarborough humbly Sheweth that your Petitioners are very much wronged by the Division of the Said Town of Scarborough into two parishes: the first parish not having more than one third part of the whole Town which was never Intended at the time of Division for when the Town first agreed to Divide it was then Supposed that a bridge over Harmons Mill Creek on the County road was the Center or Midle of the Town without any Measureing or Survey which in fact is not: by which means the first parish loses, more than twelve hundred acres of the best of their lands and not only so but a Committee appointed by the General Court to settle lines between Scarborough Falmouth and Gorham Since the Division of Scarb^o into two parishes have taken off from the head of the Said first parish in Scarb^o near two thousand acres of land which was at the time of Division allowed to belong to the first Parish: and no Division line ever run until lately between the two parishes Your Petitioners find the first parish is in a manner ruined having a Minister to Support with other heavey Charges which they are not able to bare up under Your Petitioners have applied to the Second Parish to Settle the line of Division as was first intended but they refuse Giving any Satisfaction and

your petitioners have rested the matter for Redress untill now on account of the late war which Required almost the whole attention of the General Court —

Now your petitioners humbly pray that your honors in your Great wisdom will give us Releaf in Such way and Manner as Shall Seem best So that the first parish have their full part of the whole town as was meant and Intended | and Should your Hon^{rs} think best to appoint a Committee to be on the Spot and hear both Sides of the Dispute then if your petitioners Complaint is found Causeless your petitioners will pay the whole of the Committees Charges that may arise thereon, or in Such other wise as your hon^{rs} in your known Wisdom Shall See Meet all which is humbly Submitted and your petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray

Sam ^l Small	Benj ^a Larrabe	} Committee in behalf of S ^d parish
Reuben Fogg	Abraham Tyler Jr	
Tim ^o M ^c Daniell		

Memorial of the Justices of the Lincoln Court of Common Pleas.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To the Hon Senate & the Hon. House of Representatives of
s^d Commonwealth in General Court assembled

The Memorial of the Subscribers Justices of the Court of
Common Pleas in the County of Lincoln Sheweth

That the new Settlements on Kennebec, and parts adjacent, though greatly scattered have become considerably extensive — that, as the distance is great, their travelling to Pownalborough the present Seat of the Court of Common Pleas is necessarily attended with much difficulty and expence— That for these Reasons your Memorialists conceive that the appointment of another Session of the said Court, and of the

selves to the Approbation of their fellow Citizens. The happy Period of Peace having arrived, your Petitioners with pleasure return to Civil Society & Employment, desirous and Anxious to sett down in such a situation as to help their familys & be Serviceable to the Community.

Therefore your Petitioners, humbly prays, that your Honours woud take it under Consideration, and Grant them a Tract of Land on the River Cobscook in the Bay of Passamaquaddy, in such Quantity, & upon such Terms, as in your Honours wisdom may think proper, And your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever Pray—

Boston June 21st 1784

John Crane, Thos Vose, William Perkins, Lemuel Prescott, George Ingersoll, Cettarshall, Aaron Pardee, Eben^r Brown, John R Stafford, W Tucker, A^b Warren, David Mason, Ezra Smith, David Jackson, John Tapkin, Edward White, Thomas Wells, Jn^o Lillie, Paul D Sargent, Tho^s Jackson, John Callender, Edward Blake, J Woodbridge, Jn^o Peirce, W^m Frothingham, Jno K. Smith.

In the House of Representatives June 29th 1784

Read & thereupon Ordered that this petition be committed to the Committee appointed by a Resolve of the 20th of Oct^o last to do certain business in the County of Lincoln

Same day Read again & ordered that the Petitioners at their own request have leave to withdraw their petition.

House Journal.

Wednesday, June 30th 1784 Present in Senate.

Order of the house that M^r Robbins & M^r Sullivan with such as the hon Senate may join be a Committee to consider what further measures are necessary to be taken relative to the British Encroachments in the Eastern parts of this Commonwealth.

Read & Concurred and Theodore Sedgwick Esq^r is joined—

Report of the Committee of both houses to whom was referred the consideration of the Petition of Phillips White Esq^r & the Answer of Will^m White thereto & the papers accompanying the same by way of Resolve—Sent down for Concurrence, Came up non-Concurred—

The Secretary came into Senate & communicated a Message from his Excellency the Gov^r (Vide Message) Resolves of Congress of the 3^d inst. accompanying—Read & Sent down

Ordered that the Secretary be directed to lay upon the Senate Table the register of Council

Ordered that the Treasurer be directed to attend this board — (to be enquired of — whether he has one or more of the reports of the Committee on the late Treas Gardiners Acc^{ts} in his Office)

Order of the house on the Message of his Excellency the Gov^r that this Message be Comitted to the Comittee of both houses appoint^d yesterday to consider what further measures are necessary to be taken with respect to the British encroachments on the Eastⁿ parts of this State to consider & report & what may be proper to be done thereon—Read & Concurred

An Engrossed Bill entitled “An Act for Naturalizing Tho^s Robison”—This Bill having had two several readings passed to be Enacted—

An Engrossed Bill entitled “An Act directing the proceedings against forcible entry & detainer” This Bill having two several readings passed to be Enacted.—

An Engrossed Bill entitled “An Act regulating Bail in Civil Actions” This Bill having had two several readings passed to be enacted—

Resolve of the House on the representation of John Lucas Com^r of Pensioners in behalf of Cap^t Sam^l Clark entitling

selves to the Approbation of their fellow Citizens. The happy Period of Peace having arrived, your Petitioners with pleasure return to Civil Society & Employment, desirous and Anxious to sett down in such a situation as to help their familys & be Serviceable to the Community.

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Resolve of the House on the representation of John Lucas Com^r of Pensioners in behalf of Cap^t Sam^l Clark entitling

Subjects on the Eastern Territories of this Commonwealth, deliver'd me their Report, which I take the earliest Opportunity to lay before you —

John Hancock

Council Chamber 20th Oct^r 1784.

Treasurer Not to Issue Soldiers Notes Unless on Attested Orders.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Nov. 1784.

Resolved that the Treasurer of this common wealth be and he hereby is Directed to Deliver no more notes or other Pay to any Soldier for their Service unless their orders are certified By the Select-men of the town to which such Soldier Belongs. Nor shall he pay to any Soldier in person any wages Except Such Soldier produce a certificate from the Select-men of the Town to which he Belongs or did Belong at the time of his Doing such Service: Certifying his name place of abode and the Reason for which Such Soldier Requests their certificate any Law or Resolve to the conterary not with standing

A Short Acco^t of the Destruction of the Town of Falmouth in October 1775.

On monday the sixteenth of October 1775 Cap^t Henry Mowatt on the Canceaux, with another large Ship mounting some Nine pounders, a large Schooner and a Bomb Sloop, all armed Vessels, arrived in this Harbour and Anchored down by the Islands the Inhabitants had no mistrust of his design to burn the Town, but supposed him to be in quest of some Cattle & Sheep; the Committee immedeatly sent part of the Sea Coast Men down to the Guard the Islands.

The next Day the Wind being unfavourable the Enemy Warped the little Fleet up and about four OClock P. M. they Anchored in a Line close to the Town, Cap^t Mowatt then sent an Officer with a flagg on Shore to give the Inhabitants Notice that he had it in his Orders to Destroy the Town, & that he should accordingly in two Hours hoist a red Pendant at the Main top gall^t Mast head & begin to fire upon the Town, which unexpected Message put the Town into great confusion, as we had not at that time any Cannon mounted, scarce any Ammunition, nor any Fort or Breast Work thrown up; and also a Number of Lying in Women & Sick Persons that could not well be Moved in so short a time, the Inhabitants choose a Committee to go on bord & expostulate with Cap^t Mowatt & to endeavour to procure a longer time to move the Sick Persons & some of their Effects, Mowatt agreed to wait the next Morning, upon the Towns delivering up eight small Arms that Evening (which was done) and that if the Town in the Morning by eight O Clock, would deliver up to said Mowatt four pieces of Cannon and the remainder of their small Arms in that Case he would wait 'till he had sent to Admiral Graves (then in Boston) to know if he would spare the Town, the eighteenth in the Morning the Town met and refused to give up the Cannon &c, which Message being sent off to s^d Mowatt, he with the other three armed Vessels began a most furious fire upon the Town about Nine OClock A. M. with Cannon & Grape Shott Bombs & Live Shell, which in about 15 Minutes set one House on fire & in a short time a number more, after a number of Buildings were in flames they Landed in Several Parties & set fire to the Ware Houses on the Wharves, & the Vessels. our People went thro' a very hot fire & drove them off, but the Buildings being exceeding dry at that time the flames soon Communicated to almost all the Buildings in the lower part of the Town, about Noon they Landed with a Number of Boats &

portunity that he never tortiously entered or continued in the Plaintiff's House nor never took from him but a very small part of the property mentioned in the said Hodskins's declaration and even that small part your Petitioner could then can now as fully prove he had a right by the Laws of the said State to take as the said Hodskins was then engaged as your Petitioner can make it appear in an illicit Trade with the Enemies of the United States—

That your Petitioner's Counsel finding the Jury had given a Sum in damages that must completely ruin your Petitioner should he be obliged to pay it appealed to the Supreme Judicial Court held at Falm^o on the Tuesday next following the 4th Tuesday of June 1782, but as your Petitioner had not then returned from the Sea the said Supreme Court continued the same cause to the next Term of the said Court to be held in said County in the year 1784. though under the disagreeable circumstance of the default which confessed a right of Action in the plaintiff or appellee—yet your Petitioner prepared for such defence as circumstances would then permit & procured the necessary Papers and Evidence in the case; but by a fatality which seemed to pursue your Petitioner in this matter he left the said Supreme Court before the Tryal came on and Set out for Boston in a Vessell of which he was then master as he was informed by his Counsel at Falm^o that his presence was not necessary: and by a mere mistake carried the Copy of the case with him so that he could have no hearing at all before the said Supreme Court & by that unfortunate circumstance was again defaulted & the former Judgment was affirmed with additional Costs by which means your Petitioner is now unjustly Subjected to an Execution for more than he is worth—

Your Petitioner therefore humbly prays your Honours to take his truly distressed circumstances into your mature consideration & in tenderness to his unhappy family be pleased

to grant that he may have an Opportunity of a fair hearing which is all he desires and your Petitioner as in duty bound Shall ever pray—
John Curtis
Jan^y 22^d 1785

Order of Court.

Lincoln ss. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To the Sheriffs of our Countys of Lincoln and Cumberland respectively, their respective Under Sheriffs or Deputies—
Greeting

We Command you to attach the Goods or Estate of John Curtis of Falmouth in our said County of Cumberland, Mariner, and Robert Askins of Bristol, in our said County of Lincoln Yeoman, to the Value of three hundred pounds and for want thereof to take the Bodies of the said John and Robert, if they may be found in your Precinct, and them safely keep, so that you have them before our Justices of our Inferior Court of common pleas, next to be holden at Pownalborough, within and for our said County of Lincoln on the last Tuesday of September next, then and there in our said Court to answer unto Philip Hodgkins of a place called Frenchman's Bay in our said County of Lincoln Yeoman, in a plea of Trespass; for that the said John and and Robert, at said place called Frenchman's Bay, on this ninth day of January, last with Force and Arms broke & entered the said Phillips' dwelling house there, and took and carried away therefrom the several Articles mentioned in the Schedule annexed, numbered One, the property of the said Philip, and of the respective Values therein mentioned, & put the said Philip's Wife, Children & Family in said dwelling house then & there being into great Fear and Terror, and the said Philip disturbed & deprived in & of y^e quiet & lawful Enjoyment of said dwelling house for the Space of twenty hours—and for that the said John & Robert afterwards, viz,

January 13 1785

the above Named Isaiah Cole Personely appeared and
Maid Oth to the Above Petition Before Me

Patrick Pebbles Just of Peace.

Boston Jan^r 1, 1785

These may certify that Isaiah Cole Soldier in the late 16th
Massachusetts Regiment was discharged the service of the
United States in June 1780 — after serving in said Regi-
ment three years agreeably to his inlistment —

Henry Jackson late Col^o of the late 16th Mass^u Reg^t

Petition of Eliah Royall.

To the Honorable Senate and the Honorable House of Repre-
sentatives of the Common Wealth of the Massachusetts,
in General Court Assembled.—

The Peticion of Eliah Royall Humbly Sheweth that your
Peticioner enlisted into the Continentall service for the last
three years for the Town of New Glocester in the County
of Cumberland and passed muster the first time And that
upon my passing Muster at Boston I was Rejected and then
was put into the Massachusetts Artillery Service under Cap-
tain M^eFerland, & from him I was turned over to Cap^t Amos
Lincoln under whom I served untill the eighteenth of July
1783, when I received my regular Discharge; At which time
there was eight months & a fortnutes wagies due to me.

As soon as I understood the Muster-Roll was made up I
sent an order for Said Wagies on the back of my Discharge
by Abenezer Lane which order was returned & the said Lane
enformed me that the Treasurer of the Common Wealth told
him that the Money was not Collected; I have since sent for
said waiges by Mr Peleg Chandler (a member of the Honor-

able House for this year) and upon his applying therefor the Treasurer told him that, one Samuel Pain had Come with a proper order & had received said Wagies; Which order your petitioner Avers was not given by your petitioner but was Forged; Your Petitioner therefore Humbly Prays your Honours to take his Injured Case into your Consideration and Grant him such relief as you in your Wisdom shall see fit;—And your Petitioner as in Duty Bound shall Ever Pray

Elijah Royall

New Gloucester January 13th 1785.

Cumberland ss New Gloucester January 13th 1785.

The Within Named Elijah Royall Personally Appeared & Made Solemn Oath that he Did not give the Order within mentioned unto the within Named Samuel Pain; And that he hath not given any order or orders unto any Person or Persons to Draw the wagies that was Due to him the said Royall at his said Discharge Excepting that Drawn on the back of his Discharge; & sent by the said Ebenezer Lane & the said Peleg Chandler. Before

Isaac Parsons Justice Peace

New Gloucester May 28, 1785

This may Certify that we the Subscribers Dont Suppose that M^r Elijah Royall of this town ever give any order for his wages Due at his Discharge as mentioned in petition except the one that is Drawn on the Back of his Discharge

William Harris, Nath^l Eveleth, Moses Merrill }

Select men fors^d N. Glo^r

Springfield January 20th 1784

Sir please to pay to Samuel Pain the whole of the wages due to me from Capt Lincoln last Roll in so doing You will oblige Your humble Servant

Elisha Royall

Attest

Johⁿ Tow W^m Voce

Indors'd

Samuel Pain

Treasury Office June 21, 1785

A true Copy from the original Order in this Office

Attest

Thomas Avery Treas^r

15.4/ paid

Order Appointing a Valuation Com. & Their Report.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

January 21st 1785

The Committee of both houses who were ordered to Sit in the week preceeding this Sitting of the General Court, for the purpose of Examining the returns of the rateable Polls & Estates in the several Towns, Districts & Plantations in this Commonwealth have attended that Service & report that two hundred & Eighteen Towns Districts & Plantations in this Commonwealth have made such returns; and your Committee have examined a Considerable number of the said returns & Entered them into Books

Your Committee further report, ^A as their Opinion that there be a Committee chosen out of both houses to Consist of twenty seven members the choice first to begin in the Senate to determine and report what Each of the said Towns, Districts & Plantations shall pay to a tax of a £1000 — ^B

3 of said Committee belonging to the County of Suffolk 3 Ditto to the County of Essex 3 Ditto Middlesex 3 D^o Hampshire 3 D^o Worcester 2 D^o Plymouth 2 D^o Bristol 2 D^o Berkshire 1 D^o York 1 D^o Barnstable 1 D^o Cumberland 1 D^o Lincoln 1 D^o Dukes County 1 D^o Nantucket

^C The Towns Districts & Plantations hereafter named have not yet made any such returns,— Viz^t York } York, Massabesec, Sanford, Buxton, Limerick, Little Falls,— Cumberland } New Gloucester, Gray, Pearsonstown, Royalsborough, Raymondston — Lincoln } Pownalborough, Georgetown,

Bath, Bowdoinham, Pittston, Vassalborough, Winslow, Waldoborough, St Georges, Warren, Thomastown, Norridgewalk, Howardstown, Starlington, Machias.

^D Which is humbly submitted

A Fuller p^r order

In Senate Jan^r 25th 1785

Read & accepted with Amendments at A & C as on the other side &, (reserving the right of appointing a greater proportion on any future Committees) thereupon Ordered that Cotton Tufts, Stephen Choate, Abra^m Fuller, Israel Nichols, Charles Turner, John Hastings & John Lewis with such as the Hon^{ble} house may join be a Committee for the purposes mentioned in the said Report

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Jan^r 29th 1785.

Read & concurred with amendment viz dele from O to M & insert as on the annexed papers & the following Gentlemen are joined viz M^r Dawes, M^r Ballard M^r Dane, M^r Thurston, M^r Hosmer, M^r Varnum, M^r Brewster, M^r Smead, M^r Tompson of Middleborough M^r Nye, M^r Trow, M^r Richmond, M^r Hooper, M^r Basset, M^r Peleg Coffin, M^r Sprague, M^r Crafts, M^r Thwing, M^r Bacon & M^r Peirce

In Senate Jan^r 29th 1785

Sam A Otis Spk^r

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^t

At A dele from A to B & insert — O that there be a Committee consisting of Twenty seven Members to be chosen from both houses of the Legislature to determine & report a Valuation of the Polls & rateable estates of each Town, District & Plantation within this Commonwealth, & that in making the said Valuation they shall arrange the Towns in Alphabetical order, & that the Said Committee shall not determine the

proportion that the several Counties Shall bear to each other, nor have any reference thereto in settling the Valuation

And the Committee recommend that the same rule be adopted by the General Court for their own conduct previously to their Consideration of the report of the Committee —

That the Committee having finally determined the several articles which shall constitute the Valuation of any Town, District or Plantation, & the several sums being added together & an aggregate sum produced they shall not add, or take from such — aggregate sum, tho they may be at liberty at all times to alter the Estimate of the several articles — by which the aggregate sum is produced by any Rule which will admit of a general application

At M C dele from C to D.

On the paper of Amendments proposed by the Senate dele from O to M & insert — That there be a Committee consisting of twenty seven members to be chosen from both Houses of the Legislature to determine and report a valuation of the polls and rateable estates of each Town, District and Plantation within this Commonwealth and that the said Committee in making the said valuation shall have no respect to the proportion the several Counties bear to each other or reference thereto; but they shall arrange the Towns Districts and Plantations in Alphabetical order; or otherwise begin with the shire town in the County of Suffolk; and from thence proceed to the next adjacent town in said County and so to the several Towns and Districts in the said County; thence to the shire town in the next county according to the arrangement of Counties & Towns in the valuation made A. D. 1781; thence proceed to the several Towns & Districts in that County according to the mode prescribed for the County of Suffolk, and so to the several towns, Districts, and plantations in the Commonwealth according to the said mode and arrangement

And the Committee recommend that which ever of the aforesaid Rules or modes be adopted by the Committee aforesaid on the valuation that the same be adopted by the General Court for their own conduct previously to their consideration of the report of the said Committee —

That the Committee having in the progress of the business determined the quantity and rate of value of the several articles which shall constitute the valuation of any Town, District, or plantation and the amount of the several articles being added together and the aggregate sum thereof produced, they shall not add to or deduct from such aggregate sum; unless on a careful review they shall have Just reason to add to or deduct from the quantity or rate, or both, of any of the said articles, which additions and deductions they shall enter under the article so added to or deducted from, and the amount aforesaid, as increased or diminished by the aforesaid additions or Deductions, shall be the aggregate sum of such Town, District or Plantation.—

Suffolk £29531 .. 13 .. 4 — N° Polls 7991 — Essex 30 . 600
 — 999 — Middlesex 25492 .. 10 .. 0 — 9063 — Hampshire
 21765 .. — .. — 9441 Plymouth 13312 .. 10 .. — 6088 —
 Barnstable 4762 .. 10 .. 0 — 2969 — Bristol 12471 .. 13 .. 4
 — 5831 York 7988 .. 6 .. 8 — 4122 — Dukes County —
 1367 .. 10 .. 0 — 770 Nantuckett 2105 .. 16 .. 8 — 1001
 Worcester 29,247 .. 10 .. 0 — 11,162 Cumberland 6046 .. 13
 .. 4 — 3214 Lincoln 4675 .. 16 .. 8 — 2754 Berkshire
 10632 .. 10 .. 0 — 5041 Total 200,000 .. — .. — 79446 —

Upon an average of the four largest Counties — It Amounts to £9572 .. — .. & 3184 Polls for one member of the Committee

And £7407 — .. — & 2942 Polls for one member of the Committee on an Average of the whole State —

N. B. the above Number of Polls is an Extract from the Valuation A. D. 1781 —

The Sums is an an Extract from the Tax Act A. D. 1783

Attest

A Fuller.

*Petition of Some of the Inhabitants of Sheepscot River in
the Town of Pownalboro.*

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of
the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court
Assembled

Greeting

The Petition of a Number of Inhabitants Tradeing in the
Different Towns on Sheepscutt River Humbly Sheweth That
it is the Oppinion of your Petitioners that it is for the In-
terest of the Revenue of this Commonwealth as well as easing
your Petitioners and others Tradeing to this River of a great
burden that there Should be a Naval Office Establish'd on
the River Sheepscutt at Wiscassett point in the Town of
Pownalborough and further to Convince this Honorable Court
your Petitioners would offer the following Reasons which
they Conceive to be Facts

first As the Trade of this Country is Not so large as to
Admit of Deputy Naval Officers as in that case the Fees Al-
lowed must be Divided which is not a Sufficient Compensation
for Two Persons therefore your Petitioners think it would
be much for the Interest of the Revenue to have a Naval Office
at Wiscassett point. Secondly There is many Vessells comes
into this River on Tradeing Voyages and as there is No Naval
Office within Twelve Miles of the Most Capital Tradeing part
of the River the Traders in said Vessells Wrong the Publick
of their Revenues and hurt the Honest Trader who is willing
to pay them

Thirdly In the course of the year there is a Number of
Ships comes into this River to Load some Immediately from

Europe and as there is a Number of Vessells burned in this River and your Petitioners are in hopes that the Trade is still Increasing and there being No Naval office within Twelve Miles your Petitioners think it a great Hardship that they should be Compeld to go that Distance and the Roads Excessive bad and at some seasons of the Year Almost Impassable And as it often happens a ship may have some part of her Cargo Damaged and if She must be Detained for want of Entering the Damage to the Owners must be verry Great Your Petitioners flatter themselves after offering the foregoing Facts that this Honorable Court will take the Matter into Consideration and Establish a Naval Office at Wiscassett point and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray

If this Honorable Court should think fitt to Establish a Naval office as above your Petitioners would beg leave to Recomend as a Suitable Person for Naval Officer Mr Orchard Cook —

Henry Hodge, Joseph Christopher, Jn^o Langdon, Abiel Wood, Joseph Decker, Rob^t Hodge, William Patterson
Pownalboro: Feb^r 1785

Clerk Court of Com. Pleas Lincoln County.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Feb^r 15th 1785

On the Memorial of the Justices of the Court of Common Pleas in the County of Lincoln Notify the Inhabitants of said County to shew cause (if any they have) on the second Wednesday of the next session of the General Court, why the Prayer of said Memorial should not be granted, by serving the Town Clerk of Each Town in said County, with a Coppy of the said Memorial and this order thereon, at least

thirty days before the said second Wednesday of the next Session of the General Court—

Sent up for concurrence

Sam A Otis Spk^r

Lieut Governors Message.

Gentlemen of the Senate and Gentlemen of the House of Representatives

It is with great Concern and Reluctance that I find myself obliged to address you, at this Time, upon a subject, for which I sincerely wish there had been no Occasion,—It must readily occur to you, that I refer to the late Resignation of the Governor—A Gentleman well accomplished and qualified for the high and important station, which he has for years sustained. Of the early and decided part he generously took with his Country, the sacrifices he has made & the services he has performed to promote its best interest, his Country will ever retain a grateful remembrance. And you, Gentlemen, have born an honorable Testimony to his Conduct in Office, by assuring him of the general satisfaction which it afforded to the Legislature: The good People of the Commonwealth have expressed their sense of his Administration by his repeated Election to the Office of Chief Magistrate, which must be acknowledged the highest Encomium upon his virtues as a Patriot, and his qualifications as a Governor. With you, Gentlemen, I heartily join in wishing that his health may be restored and confirmed & he, thereby, be enabled still to exert himself for the service & benefit of his Country.

By means of this Resignation, the Chair of Government has become Vacant, and by the Constitution it falls to me, during such Vacancy, to perform the duties incumbent on a Governor. I am thoroughly sensible of the Importance of

these duties and sincerely wish I was better qualified to execute them, however, it affords me great satisfaction, that the Council, you have placed round the Chair of Government, consists of Gentlemen, with whom I have for many years been connected in Public Life, of whose Wisdom and Integrity, of whose firm attachment to the Interest of their Country and unwearied attention to its welfare, I have long been a Witness, Aided by their Advice and assistance, & firmly relying, Gentlemen, on your wisdom and Candor, I shall endeavor, to the utmost of my ability, faithfully and impartially to discharge the duties of the Office.— I shall from time to time, Gentlemen, communicate to you, any thing which may occur that demands your Attention,— and you may depend upon my chearfull Concurrence with you in every measure, tending to promote the Public Welfare, and upon my giving every dispatch, in my power, to the Public Business—

Thomas Cushing

Council Chamber Boston Feb^y 19th 1785.

Petition First Parish in Falmouth.

To the Honorable Senate and the Honorable House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled—

The Petition of the First Parish in the Town of Falmouth in the County of Cumberland, by their Committee the Subscribers thereof

humbly shews

That they have long laboured under many Difficulties in respect to the raising Money for the payment of their Ministers Salaries—and their present Situation is so peculiar that unless some other mode than the usual one of taxing the Polls and Estates of the Inhabitants, is adopted they appre-

hend their difficulties will be increased — The Plan they have in contemplation is the following — viz —

1—The Establishment of a Fund, the Interest whereof shall amount to the Sum of One hundred Pounds p^r Annum —To promote this part of said Plan, their Ministers have consented to the Sale of the Parsonage Lands, on condition that the deficiency be made up by Subscription, A Subscription has therefore been set on foot. Some Inhabitants of the Parish have generally encouraged the attempt—and if your Honors would grant them liberty to sell the Lands aforesaid, they flatter themselves, a Sum will be raised sufficient for the purpose.

Whatever may be deficient to make up the whole of both Salaries, and other Parish Charges, they wish to have raised by way of Tax upon the Pews—

If this Plan should be compleated Your Petitioners apprehend their Happiness as a Parish will be greatly promoted.

They therefore humbly pray that your Honors would pass an Act or Acts to enable them to carry it into Effect.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound will ever pray —
Falmouth Feb^r 7, 1785

Sam^l Freeman, Timothy Pike } Parish Committee

House of Representatives Febr^y 21, 1785

Read & Ordered that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill for the purposes mentioned in their petition

Sent up for concurrence

Sam A Otis Spk^r

To the hon^{ble} the general Court of the Commonwealth of
Massa^{ts}

The inhabitants of the first parish in Falmouth in the County of Cumberland having applied to us for our comfort to the selling of the parsonage lands belonging to said parish,

in order to raise a fund equal to the income of 100£ per annum: We the ministers of said parish do hereby freely consent to the sale of the said lands, on condition that 450 pounds by subscription or otherwise be added to the sum said lands shall sell for and be appropriated to the support of the ministry of the Gospel in said Parish agreeable to the original intention of the General Court in the Grant made by them of said Lands

Tho^s Smith, Samuel Deane.

Falm^o Dec^r 27th 1784

At a legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the first Parish in Falm^o pursuant to the foregoing notification, Deacon Benjamin Titcomb was chosen Moderator.

1st Art^c Voted that the parish apply to the General Court for liberty to dispose of the lands belonging to said Parish; and that the monies arising from the sale of such lands may be a fund, and the annual interest thereof be appropriated for the support of the Ministry in said Parish for ever — as far as the same will go —

2 Voted That the Parish make application to the General Court; that they may be impowered to tax the pews in the Meetinghouse in said Parish to make up the deficiency that may be requisite for the support of the Ministry in said Parish; and for other Parish charges: —

3 Voted That the Parish Committee be requested to apply to the Inhabitants of the Parish and others, to see if they are disposed to give any sum of money to increase the fund proposed to be made by the sale of lands; & report their doings at the adjournment.

Voted That this Meeting be adjourned to this day fortnight, at two o'clock P. M then to meet at this place | viz the Meeting house.

Falm^o Jan^r 10th 1785 The Parish (if the three persons the Clerk included may be so called) met as adjourned, and

further adjourned to Feb^y 7th at two o'clock P M. Feb^y 7th 1785. The Parish met according to adjournment— Voted That the Parish Comittee apply to the Ministers of the Parish to know if they will consent to have the Parish lands sold for the purpose of raising a fund agreeably to a vote of the Parish of Dec^r 27th last past, and if they do consent that said Comittee petition the General Court for leave to sell the same accordingly: and also for an act to tax the pews agreeably to another vote passed at the same time—

Falm^e Feb^y 7th 1785 Recorded

by John Frothingham Par: Ck

A true Copy from said Parish's book of Records

Att^t

John Frothingham Par Clerk

A Bill for Naturalization.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year of our LORD One thousand seven hundred and eighty five.

An Act making Provision for the Naturalization of such Persons as may emigrate from forreign Countries, and be disposed to become Citizens of this Commonwealth.

Whereas it hath pleased the Divine Being, who hath made, of one Blood, all Nations to dwell on the Earth, after a long and arduous War, to grant Peace and Tranquility to the United States of America; in Consequence whereof, the said States are now in the quiet Possession of an extensive Territory of uncultivated Lands of the most luxuriant Quality, a large Proportion of which Lands ly within this Commonwealth. And, Whereas the Legislature, influenced, as well by Motives of Interest and Good Policy, as by Principles of Generosity and Benevolence, are ready to open their Arms wide to the virtuous and well-disposed Inhabitants of forreign Countries, and to give every Encouragement to such Inhabi-

tants to settle amongst, and become Fellow Citizens with the Inhabitants of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the Authority of the same, that any Person or Persons (Fugitives from justice only, and such other Persons as are expressly named in an Act intituled, "An Act to confiscate the Estate of certain Notorious Conspirators against the Government and Liberties of the Inhabitants of the late Province, now State of Massachusetts Bay," excepted) who may see fit to remove from any foreign Country or Kingdom, and to settle within this Commonwealth, and who are possessed, in their own Right, of any Estate of the Value of after having resided within the said Commonwealth for the Term of one Year, shall, before the Court of General Sessions of the Peace in the County where they resided, be admitted to take an Oath of Allegiance to this Commonwealth (unless, for some special Reason, the Justices of the said Court shall judge the said Persons to be unworthy, or improper, subjects of Naturalization) and on their taking the Oath of Allegiance as aforesaid, they shall be admitted, together with their Children (being Minors) to the Rights of Citizenship, in common with the natural-born Citizens of this Commonwealth.

*Petition of Sundry Soldiers of the Late Continental Army
For Lands Near Otisfield Mch. 1st 1785.*

To the Honorable Senate and the Honorable House of Representatives.

The Petition of the Subscribers Soldiers in the late Army of the United States of America Humbly Sheweth.

That your Petitioners have Served their Country in the late War with the King of Great Brittain and some of them

the first Rupture of the time that American Liberty and Independence was Acknowledged and Established.

As to the Merit of their Service they only Beg leave to Say that they have received each his Discharge with an Honorable testimony of faithful service—Respecting any Hardship suffered in the Camp or in the Field either from Hunger or Cold or the Want of necessary supplies they will say nothing as they are confident that the Honorable Court has not been uninformed or Inattentive to those Matters—

When the Glorious Contest was Ended and Peace Established to the United States—Your Petitioners—Sensible of the Expenditure of the War and the Difficulty of Procuring Money to pay the Wages of the Army Readily Accepted of State Securities and Continental Certificates instead of Money—With these Securities they Returned to their Families and Friends hoping to enjoy tranquility and Happiness in private Life.

But as their Necessities have compell'd them to transfer a considerable Part of those Securities and as they have not been able to obtain more than one third part of their Nominal Value in Money or Produce, the State of your Petitioners in many Instances is reduced to poverty—Which usually produces Contempt among their Fellow Citizens—In the Midst of a happy Country Tryumphing in a glorious Independence—Liberty and Peace—In preference to their present State and rather than be under the necessity of parting with their Remaining publick Securities at so great a loss—They wou'd be happy to retire into the uncultivated Wilderness and there begin the World anew

As your Petitioners have been lately certified that the Honorable Court have determined to dispose of Lands in the Neighbourhood of Penobscot and receive state securities for the same—They would gladly avail themselves of this proposal and purchase were not the Distance of those Lands so

None of the land above mentioned has yet been sold, but there are some who propose to purchase if they should approve of the Soil, & are waiting untill the removal of the snow will admit of their forming a better Judgment of its quality.

On the 17th of December last, an agreement was made by your Committee to sell to Jonathan Eddy Esq^r & his Associates, a Township on the east side of Penobscot River, above the head of the tide, adjoining on the lands lately surveyed by Barnabas Dodge & on the said River, the same to contain twenty five thousand acres, including (for a landing place) three acres of land lying on the northwesterly corner of the lands, lately surveyed by the said Dodge, & exclusive of lakes, & the said Township to extend six miles back from the said River,—reserving two hundred acres of good land, near the center of the said Township for the future disposition of Government.

And the said Eddy agreed to pay to your Committee the sum of eight thousand dollars in the consolidated Securities of the Commonwealth, as soon as a deed of the said land shall be ready to be delivered,—and the like sum of eight thousand dollars in like manner, in one year from the delivery of the said deed & to give satisfactory security for the last mentioned sum;—and the said Eddy further agreed to produce evidence to the General Court that the Penobscot Indians have relinquished their pretensions to the said Township, & to settle thereon, thirty families in one year from the first day of June next, & to appropriate two hundred acres to the use of the ministry;—two hundred acres to the use of the first settled minister & two hundred & eighty acres to the use of a grammar School in the said Township, near the center thereof; but it was nevertheless provided, that if the General Court shall not approve of the said agreement, that the same shall be null & void.—

Your Committee on the 14th of this instant February

agreed with Robert Page of Winthrop to sell to him, or to him & his Associates a gore of land adjoining to Livermore town, containing about six thousand seven hundred acres, including ponds & bogs, for the sum of five thousand dollars, one half to be paid on or before the first wednesday of June next when a deed of the same is to be given, and the other half to be paid in one year afterward.

Your Committee have lately received from Rufus Putnam Esq^r a letter on the subject of the eastern boundary of this Commonwealth, which they apprehend contains matter that merits the attention of the Legislature which is here with presented.

In Senate March 8, 1785.

Sam^l Phillips jun^r Nath^l Wells Nathan Dane } Comm^o

Read & sent down

S Adams Presid^t

Petition of the Officers of the Army.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate March 5 1785

On the petition of Benj^a Lincoln Esq^r & others, in behalf of themselves & others, late Officers and Soldiers in the Massachusetts Line of the late Army of the United States—praying “that the Certificates received by them from the United States for their Services in the Field”—may be taken in payment for Lands which they may purchase, belonging to this Commonwealth,

Resolved

that, when any officer or Soldier of the late Massachusetts Line may purchase any Lands in the County of Cumberland, or in the County of Lincoln, the property of this Commonwealth—the Committee appointed and authorized to sell the same, be and they hereby are empowered and directed to

receive of any of the said Officers or Soldiers, in payment therefor, such Certificates as were paid them on the final settlement of their Acco^{ts}—and at the same rate as they receive any other public securities, for Lands of like Quality and Situation by them sold

Provided that no Officer or Soldier shall be entitled to the benefit of this resolve any further than to the amount of the Certificates he may have received as aforesaid and provided that each Officer or Soldier purchasing Land as aforesaid, shall make oath that the Certificates paid by him therefor are his own property—and not the property of any other person—

Resolved—that any officer or Soldier, who may have parted with the Certificate given him in the first instance, shall have liberty to purchase other like Securities to the same amount—which shall be received by the said Committee in payment as aforesaid—as freely as if the said Certificates were in the name of the Officer or Soldier offering them—

The Committee of both Houses appointed to consider of & report upon, the petition of Benjamin Lincoln and others, in behalf of themselves and others, officers & Soldiers in the Massachusetts Line of the late Army of the United States—have attended that Service & ask leave to report the Resolves accompanying—

Tristram Dalton p^r order

In Senate March 8th 1785

Read & not accepted & thereupon Ordered that the Consideration of the said Petition be referred to the next sitting of the Gen^l Court

Sent down for concurrence S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives March 11th 1785

Read & concurred as taken into a new draught

Sent up for concurrence Sam A. Otis Spk^r

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate, March 5, 1785.

On the Petition of Benjamin Lincoln Esq. & others in behalf of themselves & others late Officers & Soldiers in the Massachusetts Line of the late Army, praying, that the Certificates received by them from the United States for their Services in the Field, may be taken in Payment for Lands, belonging to this Commonwealth,

Resolved that the Committee for making Sale of Lands belonging to this Commonwealth in the County of Lincoln be & they hereby are authorized & impowered to sell such a Part or Proportion of the seven Eastern Townships, lately surveyed & laid out by Rufus Putnam Esq, as they may think fit, for the most the same will fetch, & to receive in payment therefor, of any Person or Persons purchasing the same, Securities, either of this Commonwealth, or Continental Securities, of any Denomination indiscriminately & without Distinction; the said Securities (if required) to be certified, as genuine, from the respective Officers from which they were issued, & that the s^d Committee oblige The grantees to settle at least 30 Families in each Township (within 3 years from the date of their Deeds of Conveyance great from your Petitioners and their Connections— And Apprehending that it might be of equal advantage to the Common Wealth to dispose of Land much nearer to them do therefore:

Pray— That Lands may be granted to your Petitioners in vicinity of Otisfield and Sylvester — (Plantations so called) on a River commonly known by the name of twenty Mile River — and on such terms and conditions as the honorable Court in their Wisdom Shall Judge Suitable and Reasonable — and that State Securities and Continental Certificates may be received in pament for the same —

and your Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray —

Richard Hine, Humphrey Alden, Seth Sladon, Moses Pollard, Nathaniel Lombard, Bristo Mowen, Phebe Davis Widow of Elijah Davis, John X Burrel, Stepⁿ Edwards, Ezekiel Hatch, Bickford Dyer, Butler Lambord, Jese Brown, Nathaniel Parker, Daniel Eldridge, William Weeks, Silas Chadbourn, Asa Hatch, Enoch Frost, David Watts, Christopher Dune Benj. Morgen

In the House of Representatives March 1st 1785.

Read & committed to the Committee appointed to make sale of the public unappropriated lands in the County of Cumberland

Sent up for concurrence

Sam A Otis Spk^r

Petition of Hector McNeil and Others re Maps.

To the Hon^{ble} the Senate, and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in General Court Assembled —

The Petition of Hector McNeil & others, Humbly sheweth, That your Petitioners, ever willing and ready to Exert their utmost ability to advance the Interest of the United States of America, Convinced of the great necessity of a General & thorough knowledge of the Geography of our Country, have at their own expence, & Labour, made themselves Masters of such a Collection of Materials as will enable them to publish a Correct Set of Compleat Maps, of this Country from the Straits of Bell Isle, to the Capes of Delaware, Coincident & perfectly agreeing with the late Surveys, made at the Expence of the British Government which are held in such high Estimation in England, that they are not permitted to Come to the Hands of the People at large, but wholly reserved for the use of their Army & Navy.

These Drafts will be published on different Scales, with a view to promote their usefulness, and with Printed Directions and Observations, peculiarly Calculated, for the use of Mariners, by which the Navigation of this Extensive Sea Coast may be Carried on with infinitely less risque than it has been hitherto.

Your Petitioners therefore Humbly Pray, they may have some encouragement from the Great and General Court in their proceeding to Engrave upon Copper Plate and publish this useful work, as soon as may be, which will in the End prove, not only the saving of a great Expence to Government, as these Surveys are not likely to be amended, even at the Expence of much Treasure, and many years labour, but will bring forward a thing so immediately wanted by the publick both by sea & Land, and upon which both the Lives & Fortunes of many depend.

Your Petitioners being Consious of the many calls the State have upon them at present for monies, do not presume to ask for any Consideration in Specie, notwithstanding their Expences have already been very Considerable, but would only pray for such a Division of Unlocated Lands, on some part of our Extensive Eastern Country, as will have a Tendency to promote and encourage this Great undertaking, and serve the Public in a two fold manner, Viz. by Publishing the above, and using their utmost endeavours to settle said Lands without delay.

Your Petitioners Humbly Hope, that so great an attempt to promote useful knowledge, will meet with your Honours approbation and encouragement, and your petitioners as in Duty bound will Ever pray.

Hector M^cNeill, John Norman, John Coles, Benj^a Gould
Boston March 2^d 1785.

In the House of Representatives March 4th 1785

Read & committed to the Committee appointed by a Resolve of the 28th Oct^o 1783 upon the subject of the unappropriated lands in the County of Lincoln, to consider & report

Sent up for concurrence

Sam A Otis Spk^r

In Senate March 9th 1785

Read and Noncurred

S Adams Presid^t

In Senate March 12th 1785

Read again & the Senate Reconsider their former vote & concur with the Hon. House

S. Adams Presid^t

Commonwealth of Massachusetts To the Hon^{ble} Senate of Said Commonwealth

For the information of the Honourable Senate, the Subscribers beg leave to explain some parts of the Petition of Hector M^cNeal & others — Viz^t —

That the intended Publication of Maps, has not been opened by Subscription, the Map we have several Hundred Subscribers for, is the four New England States only, and for which we presume no further reward, than the price to Subscribers, and in which M^r M^cNeal has no Interest, but the publication proposed is a vastly greater undertaking, and will cost the petitioners more Interest than they can support, without the help of Government, they therefore pray the Hon^{ble} Senate would be pleased to Concur with the Hon^{ble} House in their Resolve, on the aforesaid Petition.

And as in Duty bound shall Ever pray

John Norman

John Coles

Commonwealth of Massachusetts }

In the House of Representatives 7th Nov^r 1785

On the Petition of Jn^o Norman and Jn^o Coles publishers of a Map of the four Eastern States, praying an Inspection

of the s^d Map: it having been represented to be a very imperfect Performance, & an imposition on the Public— **Your** Committee have carefully examin'd and compared s^d Map. with a Collection of Maps call'd the American Atlas, published by the Brittish, in 1778, from which s^d Map is chiefly taken, and are of Opinion that it is in general well copy'd, **with** many Amendments, and do recommend it as an improvement on any Map of the kind hitherto published —

The Committee appointed by a Resolve of the General Court of the 28th of Oct^r 1783, on the subject of unappropriated lands in the County of Lincoln, received from Rufus Putnam Esq^r on the 17th of Nov^r last, a plan of seven Townships on the Passamaquoddy River & Bay & lying between the Rivers Schoodie & Cobscook, together with Moose Island, Dudley's Island & Trade Island, all surveyed by him, on which is represented the mouth of the Maggaeadava, as taken from an Halifax plan—they have also received a return of the quantity and quality of the land in each Township, and also of the names of those who have entered thereon:— The Committee immediately proceeded to advertize in the Independent Chronicle, and in the Essex, Springfield & Worcester Newspapers, the Townships & Islands above mentioned, giving a general description of the situation & quality of the same, & notifying the times & places, where more particular Intelligence might be obtained concerning them.

*Extract of a Letter from the Hon^{ble} Rufus King to the President of Senate Taken By Direction of the Senate—
Re: Eastern Boundary.*

New York 25th Feb^r 1785.

In the earliest instructions to the Minister at the Court of London I hope the individual interest of Massachusetts will

be attended to—the objects of commerce, including the carrying trade are the concern of many States, & will not be omitted; but you will excuse me in soliciting your attention to a point of negotiation highly important to Massachusetts—I mean, her Eastern boundary—A resolve of Congress of the 29th day of January 1784—placed this business in train & originated, the appointment of Commissioners by Massachusetts to examine into the complaints of encroachments by the british on her territory, the commissioners, proceeded to make such examination

I think reported to the Legislature a state of facts & their opinion on the same, & here the business appears to have terminated—

The resolve above referred to recommends that the proceedings had by Massachusetts, should be communicated to Congress—this communication has not been made, altho, it is most clearly the policy of Massachusetts to do it, & to procure an Act of Congress upon the subject, that shall make it the concern of the Union—

Congress in their present un-informed situation can do nothing on the subject—If a proper report comes forward to Congress, it undoubtedly will become an instruction to their Minister—the application going to the Sovereign, in the first instance, will be, not only more proper, but, more efficacious, than to any of his Governors—That the interest of Massachusetts is concerned in this business, is, not only my apology, but my inducement, to introduce it to your attention—

In Senate March 9th 1785

Read & Sent down

S. Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives March 10th 1785.

Read & committed to the Committee appointed on the Letter of the 12th ult^o from the Delegates of this Commonwealth at Congress

Sent up for concurrence

Sam A Otis Spk^r

Petition of Silas Barnes.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts To the Honorable Senat
& the Hon. House of Representatives of said Committee
in General Court assembled—

The Petition of Silas Barnes, Agent of the Inhabitants of
the Plantation of Hancock on Kennebec River Humbly shews

That the said Plantation is situated on both sides the said
River & extends into the Country five miles on each side
thereof and is bounded southerly on the Town of Winslow
and northerly on a Tract of land known by the Name of
Canaan—and contains fifty families—That the said Plan-
tation of Hancock has been hitherto taxed as an adjacent to
the Town of Winslow; from which circumstance the said
Plantation has experienced much inconvenience and great
hardship—the said Barnes therefore humbly prays your
Honours that in all future assessments the said Inhabitants
may be properly authorized to tax themselves such sums as
the Hon Legislature may think proper to lay upon them in
their present state of Infancy & y^r Petitioner as in duty
bound will ever pray
Silas Barron

Feb^r 4th 1785

Answer to Above.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives March 11th 1785

On the Petition of Silas Barron in behalf of himself and
others Residing on a Tract of Land in the County of Lincoln
on each side of Kennebeck River adjoining the town of
Winslow belonging to the Common Wealth praying that they
may be Impowered to Assess Taxes on themselves in like
Manner as Plantations granted by the Legislature

Resolved that the Prayer of the Petition be Granted—
And the People that do or hereafter may Reside on the

Tract of Land called Hancock extending five Miles each side from Kennebeck River Between the Towns of Winslow and a tract of Land known by the Name of Canaan are hereby Authorized Empowered and Required to assess on themselves every species of Taxes which granted Plantations are by Law Authorized and Required to Assess and the Said People Residing on the said Tract of Land called Hancock are also Empowered and Required to chuse and appoint proper Officers for the purpose of assessing and Collecting Taxes in the same Manner as Granted Plantations are Empowered and Required to do and such Officers when chosen shall be and be considered under the same Obligations of Law as such like Officers are holden to be in granted Towns and Plantations in this Common Wealth.—

And that Ezk^l Pattie Esq^r Justice of the Peace be & he is hereby Directed and Required to Issue his Warrant Directed to some suitable Person Residing on the said Tract of Land called Hancock to Warn a Meeting of the Inhabitants Quallified by Law to Vote for town officers on the third wednesday in May next to chuse the officers as afores^d and the said officers afterwards shall be chosen in March annually as the Law prescribes in that case made and Provided—

And the People Residing on the Lands called Hancock aforesaid Shall be holden to pay to the Town of Winslow whatever Taxes have been heretofore Lawfully assessed on them by said Town this Resolve notwithstanding

Sent up for concurrence Sam A Otis Spk^r

Petition of Elizabeth Goldthwait.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Nov^r 18th 1785

On the Petition of Elizabeth Goldthwait Adm^r on the Estate of Ezekiel Goldthwait late of Boston dec^d intestate,

setting forth that, at a Court of Common Pleas held at **Boston** on the first Tuesday of Oct' last, she did, in her **said** Capacity, recover Judgment against Thomas Goldthwait **of** Penobscot Esq Absentee, for the Sum of £969 .. 20 .. 8 damage & £20 .. 12 .. 8 Cost of Suit — that she afterwards levied **Ex-**emption for the Said Sums upon certain Lands in the County of Lincoln, which Lands were held in common & equal Shares between the said Thomas & the late Gov' Sir Francis Bernard dec^d whose part hath since inured to this Commonwealth, that great Strip & Waste hath been made, & are still making on the said Lands;— And praying, that some Measures may be adopted to effect a Division & Partition of the said Lands between the Commonwealth & the said Elizabeth in her said Capacity, that so legal & effectual Measures may be taken to prosecute such Trespassers, & prevent the like Conduct for the future,

Resolved, that with such other third Person as they may agree on be a Committee with full Power, to make an equitable & just Division & Partition of the Lands aforesaid between this Commonwealth and the said Elizabeth in her said Capacity Provided always that this resolve shall never be so construed as to affect the title to the fee of the said lands either on the part of the Commonwealth or said petitioner

Petition of Lewiston Plantation.

To the Honorab^l Senate & House of Representatives } Com-
mon Wealth of Massachusetts

The Petition of the inhabitants of the Plantation of Lewiston so Called humbly Sheweth

That Whereas Several Warrants for Raising Taxes for Government have Been Directed by the Treasurer of this State to the Selectmen or Assessors of Lewiston While no Such Officers Ever have Been In this Plantation and their

INDEX

A

Abbot, Aaron, 272.
 Isaac, 273, 333.
 Moses, 17.
 Reuben, 17.
 Acadians, the, 29.
 Ackins, *see* Askins.
 Adams, Benjamin, 154.
 Joel, 41.
 John, 279.
 S., 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 15, 16, 18,
 30, 32, 37, 43, 45, 47, 49, 50,
 51, 53, 55, 56, 83, 89, 90, 91,
 92, 94, 96, 97, 100, 101, 102,
 109, 110, 112, 113, 114, 123,
 129, 130, 133, 135, 145, 152,
 162, 165, 168, 170, 171, 172,
 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 183,
 185, 186, 187, 193, 194, 195,
 197, 198, 201, 202, 203, 213,
 231, 233, 247, 250, 251, 275,
 303, 304, 307, 311, 312, 313,
 315, 318, 319, 322, 345, 349,
 356, 357, 369, 371, 372, 373,
 383, 394, 395, 396, 404, 413,
 426, 427, 431, 433, 463, 467.
 Samuel, 189, 405.
 Aikins, *see* Askins.
 Albee, Lieut. William, 74, 95,
 113, 114, 220, 320.
 Alden, Humphrey, 429.
 Allan, Col. John, 8, 25, 26, 27,
 28, 30, 53, 54, 73, 74, 75, 76,
 79, 83, 96, 99, 101, 111, 133,
 134, 210, 217, 218, 219, 220,
 221, 222, 351, 353, 364, 374,
 375, 396.
 Allen, Dr. Benjamin, 343, 344.
 Wright, 272.
 Alley, John, 117.
 Allin, Henry, 344.
 American Atlas, the, 432.
 States, the, 71: *see* also United
 States.
 Ames, Moses, 42, 108, 272.
 Ammasscoggin, *see* Androscoggin.
 Ammidown, Caleb, 178.
 Amoriscoggin, *see* Androscoggin.
 Amory, John, 357.
 Anderson, Edward, 191, 362.

Androscoggin, }
 Ammasscoggin, } 20.
 Amoriscoggin, }
 Indians, 20, 30.
 River, 25, 42, 107, 248, 318,
 332, 342, 394, 395.
 River Islands, 464, 465, 466,
 467.
 Aphorp, Charles Ward, 92.
 Archer, Jno., 362.
 Armstrong, John, 230.
 Arundel, 131, 137, 138, 172, 173,
 174, 176, 177, 211, 252.
 Ash, Robert, 305.
 Thomas, 17.
 Ashton, Jacob, 98.
 Askins, } Robert, 441, 442, 443,
 Ackins, } 444, 447, 449, 450, 451,
 Aikins, } 453, 454, 463.
 Atlas, the American, 432.
 Augustine, Michael, 77.
 Avery, James, 52, 95, 96, 113, 114,
 135, 136, 304, 337, 343, 344.
 John, 28, 35, 36, 52, 58, 62, 72,
 87, 99, 111, 127, 137, 145, 160,
 198, 199, 227, 280, 281, 282,
 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288,
 289, 290, 291, 297, 298, 299,
 304, 308, 309, 409.
 John, Jr., 130, 342, 343, 357.
 Thomas, 412.
 Ayer, —, mariner, 136, 137.
 Elijah, 136, 137.

B

Babcock, Aaron, 27, 28.
 Adam, 160.
 Bacon, Mr. —, 247, 413.
 Bacon, Timothy, 83, 93.
 Capt. William, 178.
 Bageduce, *see* Megabigwaduce.
 Bagley, John, 362.
 Baker, Samuel, 121, 122, 143, 154.
 William, Jr., 353, 395.
 Bakerstown, 140, 342, 394, 395.
 Bakman, John, 253.
 Ballard, Mr. —, 413.
 Baltimore, 292.
 Bane, John, 17, 18, 210, 211, 234,
 251, 336.

of Lewistown praying for reasons set forth in said Petition that they might be exempted from the payment of certain Taxes required of them since the year 1780, is referred for consideration to the first session of the next General Court therefore Resolved that the Treasurer be and hereby is directed to stay execution against the said Plantation for said Taxes until the first day of August next — any Resolve to the Contrary notwithstanding

Sent up for concurrence Sam A Otis Spk^r

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives March 15 1785

On the Petition of the Inhabitants of the Plantation of Lewistown setting forth that since the year 1780 they have received several warrants from the Treasurer of this Commonwealth, to assess certain Taxes amounting to two hundred and seventy pounds and that at the time of the reception of these warrants, they were destitute of Officers, and not in a Capacity by Law to choose them, and ignorant of any mode by which they could legally assess the money required and pleading their inability now to pay said Taxes —

Resolved, that the said Plantation be abated One hundred and thirty five pounds, being one half of the sum required of them to assess and collect prior to the year 1784 — when they were by Law put into a Capacity to Assess and collect Taxes — and that the Treasurer be and hereby is directed to withdraw the warrants by him issued against the said Plantation prior to the Tax granted in the Year 1784 — and issue a new Warrant for the sum of one hundred and thirty five pounds

Lewistown County of Lincoln D^r

Assessment on Octo 1781 specie Tax — 90 .. — .. —, D^o —
Continental Tax N^o 1 — — — 60 .. — .. —, D^o Conti-
nental Tax N^o 2 — — — 60 .. — .. —, D^o Common-

wealth Tax N° 3 — — 60 .. — .. —, D° ditto for Army Notes
 N° 4 — 42 .. — .. — Total £312 .. — .. —

Treasury Office March 10, 1785

Thomas Ivers Treas^r

Petition of John Curtis.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts—To the Hon. Senate &
 the Hon. House of Representatives of s^d Commonwealth
 in General Court Assembled—

The petition of John Curtis of Falmouth in the County of
 Cumberland—

Humbly sheweth,

That at a Court of Common Pleas held at Pownalbor° in
 the County of Lincoln on the last Tuesday of September
 Anno Dom. 1781 your Petitioner was sued in an Action of
 Trespass by one Philip Hodskins of Frenchmans Bay for
 entering & tortiously continuing in his house and for taking
 away his property to a large amount as appears from the
 Papers accompanying this Petition—That the said cause
 was continued to June Term 1782 when your Petitioners
 Counsel suffered him to become default from a mistaken idea
 that your Petitioner had abandoned his cause, when the case
 in fact was that your Petitioner was then absent on a Voyage
 at Sea and could not therefore personally attend in order to
 take care of the said Cause but previous to his going from
 home he wrote to his said Attorney respecting the conduct of
 the said Suit; but the Latter by some unfortunate accident
 miscarried and never reached the said Attorney—That upon
 the evidence offered to the Jury on the part of the Plaintiff
 only the said Jury gave damages against your Petitioner for
 the sum of £200 and also Costs of the same Suit though your
 Petitioner can fully prove & could then if he had an op-

portunity that he never tortiously entered or continued in the Plaintiff's House nor never took from him but a very small part of the property mentioned in the said Hodskins's declaration and even that small part your Petitioner could then can now as fully prove he had a right by the Laws of the said State to take as the said Hodskins was then engaged as your Petitioner can make it appear in an illicit Trade with the Enemies of the United States —

That your Petitioner's Counsel finding the Jury had given a Sum in damages that must completely ruin your Petitioner should he be obliged to pay it appealed to the Supreme Judicial Court held at Falm^o on the Tuesday next following the 4th Tuesday of June 1782, but as your Petitioner had not then returned from the Sea the said Supreme Court continued the same cause to the next Term of the said Court to be held in said County in the year 1784. though under the disagreeable circumstance of the default which confessed a right of Action in the plaintiff or appellee—yet your Petitioner prepared for such defence as circumstances would then permit & procured the necessary Papers and Evidence in the case; but by a fatality which seemed to pursue your Petitioner in this matter he left the said Supreme Court before the Tryal came on and Set out for Boston in a Vessell of which he was then master as he was informed by his Counsel at Falm^o that his presence was not necessary: and by a mere mistake carried the Copy of the case with him so that he could have no hearing at all before the said Supreme Court & by that unfortunate circumstance was again defaulted & the former Judgment was affirmed with additional Costs by which means your Petitioner is now unjustly Subjected to an Execution for more than he is worth —

Your Petitioner therefore humbly prays your Honours to take his truly distressed circumstances into your mature consideration & in tenderness to his unhappy family be pleased

to grant that he may have an Opportunity of a fair hearing which is all he desires and your Petitioner as in duty bound Shall ever pray—
John Curtis
Jan^r 22^d 1785

Order of Court.

Lincoln ss. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To the Sheriffs of our Countys of Lincoln and Cumberland respectively, their respective Under Sheriffs or Deputies—
Greeting

We Command you to attach the Goods or Estate of John Curtis of Falmouth in our said County of Cumberland, Mariner, and Robert Askins of Bristol, in our said County of Lincoln Yeoman, to the Value of three hundred pounds and for want thereof to take the Bodies of the said John and Robert, if they may be found in your Precinct, and them safely keep, so that you have them before our Justices of our Inferior Court of common pleas, next to be holden at Pownalborough, within and for our said County of Lincoln on the last Tuesday of September next, then and there in our said Court to answer unto Philip Hodgkins of a place called Frenchman's Bay in our said County of Lincoln Yeoman, in a plea of Trespass; for that the said John and and Robert, at said place called Frenchman's Bay, on this ninth day of January, last with Force and Arms broke & entered the said Phillips' dwelling house there, and took and carried away therefrom the several Articles mentioned in the Schedule annexed, numbered One, the property of the said Philip, and of the respective Values therein mentioned, & put the said Philip's Wife, Children & Family in said dwelling house then & there being into great Fear and Terror, and the said Philip disturbed & deprived in & of y^e quiet & lawful Enjoyment of said dwelling house for the Space of twenty hours—and for that the said John & Robert afterwards, viz,

upon the same day at Frenchman's Bay afores^d with force and Arms as aforesaid broke and entered a certain two mast Boat belonging to the said Philip, and took and carried away therefrom the several Goods & Chattels mentioned in the Schedule annexed numbered Two, the Property of the said Philip and of the several and respective Values therein mentioned being the said Philip's stock in Trade & Business in and by trading upon which he got his living, by means whereof he and his said Boat were put out of employ for a long Time; viz, for the space of five months, and he was deprived of the lawful Gains he could have made by lawfully trading with the Goods and Chattels aforesaid; and other Wrongs the s^d John and Robert there did to the said Philip at the several Times aforesaid, against our Peace, and to the Damage of the said Philip as he says the Sum of three hundred pounds which shall then and there be made to appear with other due damages. And have you there this Writ with your doings therein.

Witness William Lithgow Esq at Pownalborough this sixth day of June Anno Domini 1782

Jon^a Bowman Philip Hodgkins

Cumberland Ss June the 18, 1782.

In Obedience to the within Writ I have attached a Chair of the within named John Curtis, value six Shillings and left a Summons at his house according to Law

Benj^a Bayley Deputy Sheriff

Fees, Service & Travel 16/4

Lincoln Ss. Septem^r y^e 6, 1782

By Virtue of this Writ I left a Summons at the last & usual place of abode of the within named Robert Arskins according to Law, but could find no Estate of said Robert

David Murray, Dep^y Sheriff

Fees Travel 4/6 Service 1/4 ferriage 3/2 Total 9/0

Copy Examined by

J Bowman

N° 1 Schedule of Goods taken from the house

1 pair new blue br^d Cloth Breeches superfine—2-8-0,
 1 Cott & Linnon Shirt 8/ 2 pair Worsted Stockings—18—,
 10 gal new England Rum 4—10— Total 7..16—

N° 2 Goods taken from the Boat

3 bb^a New Eng^d Rum q^t 101 gal a 9/— 45—9—0, 2
 barr^{ls} Sug^r [] C^t w^t a 10 16/ 19.4—, 1 bag Coffee
 q^t 50 ^{lb} a 2/ — 5 —, 45 lb Tobacco a 2/ — 4-10—,
 4 new Bed Blankets a 24/— 4-16-0, 1½ ^{lb} Powder 9/3
 lb. Shot 3/— —12—, 2 Sides Shoe Leather—2-2-0
 1 Tin Quart 3/ 1 Tin Tunnel—31— —6—, 2 feather
 Pillows with Cases — —16— Total £90..11..—

A true Copy of the Schedule annexed to the Writ—

Att

J Bowman

Hodgkins vs. Curtis and Askins.

Lincoln Ss.

At a Court of common pleas held at Pownalborough within
 and for the County of Lincoln, on the first Tuesday of June,
 being the Day of said Month, Anno Domini 1783.

Philip Hodgkins of a place called Frenchman's Bay in
 said County of Lincoln Yeoman ptt v^t John Curtis of Fal-
 mouth in the County of Cumberland, Mariner, and Robert
 Askins of Bristol in the County of Lincoln Yeoman, Def^t
 in a plea of Trespass; for that the said John and Robert at
 said place called Frenchman's Bay on the ninth day of
 January A. D. one thousand seven hundred & eighty two
 with Force and Arms broke and entered the said Philip's
 dwelling house there, and took and carried away therefrom
 the several articles mentioned in the Schedule annexed to
 the Writ, numbered One, the Property of the said Philip
 and of the respective Values therein mentioned, and put the

said Philip's Wife, Children and Family in said dwelling house then and there being into great Fear and Terror, and the said Philip disturbed and deprived in and of the Quiet and lawful Enjoyment of said dwelling house for the Space of Twenty hours—And for that the said John and Robert afterwards, viz upon the same day, at Frenchman's Bay aforesaid, with Force & Arms as aforesaid, broke and entered a certain two Mast Boat, belonging to the said Philip, and took and carried away therefrom the several Goods and Chattels mentioned in the Schedule annexed to the Writ numbered Two, the Property of the said Philip, and of the several & respective Values therein mentioned, being the said Philips Stock in Trade & Business,—in and by trading upon which he got his Living; by means whereof he and his said Boat were put out of Employ for a long Time, viz for the Space of five Months and he was deprived of the lawful Gains he could have made by lawfully trading with the Goods and Chattels aforesaid, and other Wrongs the said John and Robert there did to the said Philip at the several Times afores^d against the Peace and to the Damage of the said Philip as he says the Sum of three hundred pounds This Case was commenced last Term and continued to this —And at this Term the Dep^{ts} tho solemnly called to come into Court did not appear but made default; Whereupon the Case (after a full hearing of the ptt as well as the Dept^s by their Council) was committed to a Jury sworn according to Law to enquire of the Damages, who returned their Verdict therein upon Oath that is to say, they assess for the plt two hundred Pounds Damages—It is therefore Considered by said Court that the Plt recover against the Def^{ts} the Sum of Two hundred Pounds Damages & Costs. The Def^{ts} appealed from this Judgment to the next Supreme Judicial Court to be holden at Falmouth in the County of Cumberland, and for the Counties of Cumberland & Lincoln, & entered into

Recognizance with Sureties, as the Law directs, for prosecuting their Appeal with Effect—

A true Copy as appears of Record

Exam^d by

J Bowman Cle^r

Deposition of Moses Hodgkins.

Moses Hodgskins of lawful Age testifies and declares that sometime the last Winter in 1782 I being in my Father's House viz Philip Hodgskins a Number of Men came to my Father's house and took me out of the house by force and and carryed me to my Father's Boat which lay about half a mile from the house—one of the Party asked me if that was M^r Hodgskins's Boat—I told them it was—they told me they intended to carry the Boat off & tried to get her off, but she was aground and they could not get her off—they then asked who the Goods belonged to that was on board of said Boat—I told them they belong^d to my Father Philip Hodgskins—When they found they could not get the Boat off, they having a Boat along side, they went to work & took the greatest part of the Goods out of my Father's Boat and loaded their Boat along side with said Goods, the Goods they took were in Barrels and Baggs, which they said was Rum and Sugar with a small Quantity of Leather—After they had taken the Things they ordered me on Board of their Boat and brought me to the Landing Place, and sat me on Shore and part of the Men came on Shore with me and came to my Father's house, and the Remainder of the Men went off with the Goods and Boat, and went down the Bay

The Party which came to the house with me brought a Case Bottle of Rum with them which they drank and spilt in the house—In the Mean Time Cap^t Crabtree came to the house and desired of the person who called himself an officer that the Room might be cleared out, that M^r Hodgskins and the Children might have the priviledge of the Fire

—The Room was clear'd accordingly—The Party stay^d at my Father's house all Night towards day another Party came to the house one of the Party which came last told the officer who was at the house all night that it was the Captain's orders—that they might take the Remainder of the Goods which was on Board of Hodskins Boat and bring them off, the said officer / whose Name I do not remember to have heard mentioned / with the whole of the Party which had been on Shore, went to the Landing but as I did not go to the Shore at that Time I do not know what happened;—but a short Time after I went to the Landing, where I saw M^r Crabtree mending their Boat, which I understood was stove with the Surff—When the Boat was mended they launched her off afloat, and I also saw them take off the Beach a bb^l which they said was Rum and carryed it off—

And further this Deponent declares that I heard one of the Men say that their Privateer lay at Mount Desert—that after they were gone, there was several Things mist out of the house, viz a pair Breeches a Jacket a pair of Stockins and a Shirt with a small piece of Bed Tick—

And further this Deponent recollects, that the said Case Bottle of Rum before mentioned he well remembers some of the party drew it out of a Barrel which was in my Father's Cellar and taken by them when they first came on Shore, to my Father's house—and further saith not—

Moses Hodgkins

Lincoln Ss. Frenchmans Bay Septem^r 16 .. 1782.

Then the above named Moses Hodgkins personally appeared and after being carefully examined and duly cautioned to testify the whole Truth relating to the Cause in which his Deposition by him above subscribed is to be used, made Oath to the Truth of the same, taken at the Request of Philip Hodgskins of a place called Frenchman's Bay in

the County of Lincoln, Yeoman, and to be used in an Action of Trespass to be heard and tried at the Inferior Court of common pleas, to be held at Pownalborough in and for the County of Lincoln the last Tuesday of this Instant September, wherein the said Philip is plt. & John Curtis of North Yarmouth in the County of Cumberland Mariner & Robert Askins of Bristol in the County of Lincoln Yeoman are Deft^s—The Deponent living & being more than thirty Miles from the Place of Trial—The said adverse party living and being more than twenty Miles from the Place of Caption were not notified nor present taken and Sealed up according to Law, by me Alex Campbell Just. pacis.

Witness attend 1 Day £0—3—0, Justices travel out & home 50 Miles, 0—15—0, Writing Deposition 0—2—0, Affidavit, 0—1—6 Total £1—1—6 .

Opened in Court, Att J Bowman Cler
Copy Examin^d by Jno Bowman Cler.

Deposition of Agreen Crabtree.

Agreen Crabtree of lawful Age testifies & declares that sometime in the Month of January 1782 two of my Neighbours, viz. Weston & West came to my house in Frenchman's Bay and told me there was Privateers Men at M^r Philip Hodgkins house and they believed would plunder the Family and carry away the Schooner, and desired I would go to Hodgkins—I went with them to said Hodgkins where I saw a Number of Men (strangers to me) in possession of every room in the house—M^r Hodgkins not being at home, M^{rs} Hodgkins & Family in the Utmost Confusion sitting in the back parts of the Room, I asked them if they had any Officer with them—they told me they had—I desired them to call the Officer—they did accordingly—I desired he

might clear one Room, that the Woman and Family might have the Benefit of the Fire, as the Weather was cold—I then asked the officer what his Name was—he told me Jenkins and that he belonged to Rhode Island I asked him his Captains Name—he told me his Name was Jenkins and belonged to the same place. I spent the Night with them at M^r Hodgkins About break of Day in the Morning one Bartin of Mount Desert, which belonged to the Privateer which then lay at said Mount Desert, came to M^r Hodgkins where I then was and told the Officer that it was the Capt Orders, that he must with the Men he had on Shore, go on board Hodskins's Schooner, and take the Remainder of the Goods out of her and come on board as soon as possible I went to the landing with them, where we found said Bartins Boat was stove with the Surff—Then the said Officers ordered said Bartin to take the above named Wosters Boat, which lay at the Landing haul'd up, and go on board Hodskins Schooner and take the Remainder of the Goods they should find on board said Bartin went with a Number of Men in said Westen's Boat according to orders—I did not see them on board said Hodgkins Schooner as I assisted them to repair their Boat which had been stove and was at the Landing when said Boat & Men returned—they brought with them two Bbls Malosses and one D^o Rum, and a Porringer and some other small Matters which I well know did belong to said Hodgkins's Boat, which small Articles I got from them, having their promises before that they would not strip said Boat, and further persuaded them to deliver up the two Barrells of Mollases, as it was a very scarce Article in this Country, to which they complied and left the Molasses according to my Desire—The said officer asked me why M^r Hodskins had not haul'd said Goods up to his house before that Time—I told him that M^r Hodskins's Business had carryed him from home, that the Ground was

hard froze and Slippery, and his Oxen not shod made it very difficult to get the Goods up, and all which I now positively declare was the Case, and which they then allowed to be a sufficient Reason — And further this deponent declares that after said Bartin came to M^r Hodgkins's as aforesaid, I asked him what the Captains Name was — he told me it was Curtis — I also asked him what the said Officers Name was | then present | he told me his Name was Askins — And this Deponent further declares that after said Officer and Men set out to go on board their Privateer, I returned to M^r Hodgkins — I heard M^r Hodgkins complain very much that the Privateers Men had taken several Articles out of the house, viz one Bed Blanket one Jacket one pair of Breeches, a pair of Silk Stockings, and other Things, which I do not recollect — and further M^r Hodgkins said that the Privateers men had taken out of the Boat before I came there the Evening before a Quantity of Tobacco, Coffee, Rum & Sugar, as much as their Boat would carry, all which the said officer had told me before he went away, and further this Deponent saith not —

Agreen Crabtree

Lincoln ss. Frenchmans Bay September 16. 1782

Then personally appeared the above named Agreen Crabtree, and after being carefully examined and duly cautioned to testify the whole Truth relating to the Cause in which his Deposition by him above subscribed is to be used made Oath to the Truth of the same taken at the Request of Philip Hodgkins of a place called Frenchman's Bay in the County of Lincoln Yeoman and to be used in an Action of Trespass to be heard and tried at the Superior Court of common pleas to be held at Pownalborough in and for the County of Lincoln on the last Tuesday of September instant, wherein the said Philip is pet and John Curtis of North Yarmouth in the

County of Cumberland Mariner and Robert Askins of Bristol in the County of Lincoln Yeoman are Def^t—The Deponent living & being more than thirty miles from the place of Trial the said Adverse Parties living and being more than twenty Miles from the place of Caption was not notified nor present.

Taken and sealed up according to Law by me

Alex Campbell Justs Pacis

Witness 1 days Attendance—0—3—0 Justices Trav^r
out & home 50 Miles 0—15—0 Affidavit 0—1—6
Writing Deposition 0—3—0 Total £1..2—6
opened in Court Att J Bowman Cler.
Copy Exam^d by Jon^s Bowman Cle^r

Deposition of John Hamor.

The Deposition of John Hamor of lawful Age testifies and declares that sometime in the Winter 1782 I was on Board of Capt John Curtiss Privateer at Mount Desert in Frenchman's Bay where I saw Capt Curtis mending a Boat on the Deck of said Privateer, which Boat said Curtis told me had been stove on the other Side of the Bay—then said Curtis ask'd me down into the Cabbin—I went into the Cabbin with him according to his desire when said Curtis told me he had taken sundry Articles from M^r Philip Hodskins Viz Rum Sugar & many other things which I do not recollect I saw two barrells of Rum which said Curtis Told he had taken from said Hodskins. I drank some of the Rum therefore am positive it was Rum said barrells contain'd and further this Deponent declares that the Sailing Master, whose name was Downs shewed him a small bagg of Tobacco which said Downs Told him he had taken from said Hodskins and further this Deponent declares that the said Curtis told him that the cause of his taking said Goods from the said Hodskins

was that he had seen said Hodskins with his Vessell at West Passamaquaddy some days before and that he the said Curtis had sent an Officer on board said Hodskins and by the Officers information said Curtis expected said Hodskins was bound into Passamaquadia with his said Vessell but that said Hodskins instead of putting into Passamaquadia as said Curtis expected when the Tide suted had sailed for Frenchman's Bay and that said Curtis had sent his boat after him for three days but could not overtake him therefore he the said Curtis said he was determined to have satisfaction of said Hodskins for the trouble he had given him & further saith not

John Hamor

Lincoln ss Frenchman's Bay September 16th 1782 then the above named John Hamor personally appeared and after being carefully examined and duly cautioned to testify the whole truth relating to the cause in which this Deposition by him within subscribed is to be used made oath to the truth of the same taken at the request of Philip Hodskins of a place called Frenchman's Bay in the County of Lincoln Yeoman and to be used in an action of Trespass to be heard and tryed at the inferior Court of Common Pleas to be held at Pownalborough in and for said County of Lincoln on the last Tuesday of this instant September wherein the said Philip Hodskins is Plaintiff and John Curtis of North Yarmouth in the County of Cumberland Mariner and Robert Askins of Bristol in the County of Lincoln Yeoman are defendants the Deponent living and being more than thirty miles from the place of tryal is the cause of caption of this Affidavit the said adverse party living and being more than twenty miles from the plase of Caption was not notified nor present. Taken and sealed up according to Law by me

Alex. Campbell Jus^t pacis

Tuesday of September next, wherein the said Philip is ptt & John Curtis of North Yarmouth in the County of Cumberland Mariner, & Robert Askins of Bristol in the County of Lincoln Yeoman are Deft^s— The Deponent living and being more than thirty miles from the Place of Trial— The said Adverse Party living and being more than twenty miles from the place of Caption was not notified nor present

Taken and sealed up according to Law by me

Alex^r Campbell Just peace

Witness Travel 30 miles 0 — 5 — 0 his attendance 1 day — 0 — 3 — 0, Justice his Writing Deposition 0 — 1 — 0 Affidavit — 1 — 6, Total 0 — 10 — 6

Opened in Court Att J Bowman Cler.

Permit to Schooner Sally.

Permit the Schooner Sally, Philip Hodgkins Master to pass the American Armed Vessels to Passamay Quady with some small Articles to purchase some fish & to settle his accounts and to return back again to this Port unmolested —

Thomas Hill Chairmⁿ Committee

Frenchman's Bay 17th Dec^r 1781

To all Masters of American Privateers and Letters of Mark.

Copy Examined by J Bowman Cler.

Permission Granted to Philip Hodgkins.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Port of Newbury Port

These certify all whom it doth concern that Philip Hodgkins Master of the Boat Sally, burthen ten Tons, or thereabouts, navigated with two Men mounted with no Guns, bound for Frenchman's bay has Permission to depart from this Port, with the following Articles — viz

Fifty Bushels of Corn four Barrels of Rum four barrels of Sugar — two bb^l & half of Molasses Two barrels of Cyder —

one dead hog, eighty w^t of Coffee some small stores.

To be landed at Frenchman's Bay he having given Bond for the due performance thereof.

Given under my hand & seal of Office at Newbury Port aforesaid the Eighth day of December A. D. 1781

M Hodge N. Officer

A true Copy from the Original

Attest M Hodge

Copy Exam'd by Jon^a Bowman Cler

We assess for the Plaintiff two hundred Pounds Damages

Daniel Savage foreman

Copy Exam^d

J Bowman Cler.

Sureties Furnished.

Lincoln ss. Memorandum

That on the eleventh Day of June Anno Domini 1783, before the Justices of the Court of common pleas within the County of Lincoln, personally appeared William Lithgow Jun^r of Georgetown in said County Esq. Roland Cushing & Timothy Langdon both of Pownalborough in said County and acknowledged themselves to be personally indebted unto Philip Hodgkins of Frenchman's Bay in said County, Mariner in the respective Sums following viz. the said William Principal in the sum of ten Pounds and the said Roland & Timothy as Sureties in the Sum of five Pounds each to be levied upon their several Goods or Chattels Lands or Tenements and in want thereof upon their Bodies to the use of the said Philip if Default be made in the Performance of the Condition here under written —

The Condition of this Recognizance is Such that if John Curtis of Falmouth in the County of Cumberland Mariner, & Robert Askins of Bristol in the County of Lincoln Yeoman shall & do prosecute an Appeal from a Judgment given

against them in the Court of common pleas held at Pownalborough within & for the County of Lincoln on the first Tuesday of June inst for the Sum of Two hundred Pounds Damages & Costs of Suit, at the next Supreme Judicial Court to be holden at Falmouth in the County of Cumberland & for the Counties of Cumberland & Lincoln on the Tuesday next after the fourth Tuesday of June inst. with Effect—Then this Recognizance to be void, other wise to remain in full force Att J Bowman Cler.

Deposition of John Tilley.

I John Tilley of the Town of Boston Inholder of Lawful Age Do Testify and Declare that Being 1st Lieut of the arm'd Sloop Lively Commanded by John Augusta Dunn, on the 1st Day of January In the year 1782—we fell In with an Arm'd Schooner Commanded by Cap. John Curtis Being then at Passamaquoddy In the Bay of fundy Said Curtis Inform'd us a Certain Hodgkins he had taken Bound to S^t John In a Small Vessell with W. India Goods for the Brittish and Likewise passingers for that Place—and that Hodgskins had sett his passengers on Shore and Run Back with his Vessell to Mount Desert—Contrary to the Rules and Laws of Nations—and that the s^d Curtis was Determined to Call on him at Mount Desert on his Return—we then In Company Proceeded homewards towards Boston—and on the 9th Day of Jan^r In the year 1782 arriv^d at Mount Desert where Cap^t Curtis Sent his officers & me In the Boat to Hodgskins Place of Residence In Order to take what he had Captured together with s^d Hodgskins & Bring him to Boston—Not finding him we took from the Vessell as follows—3 B^{ls} N. E. Rum=2 B^{ls} Brown Sugar 2 Sides of Upper Leather—20 ^{lb} Coffee=& 12 ^{lb} Tobacco and Bro^t on Board and Made use of Said Articles, or Such a Proportion

of them as the Vessel's had then Need of—I Solemnly Declare that was the whole of the Articles taken from s^d Hodgskins—Cap' John Prebble of Passamaquoddy Parold the s^d Passengers after Hodgskins—his People had left them on Shore—the Particulars of which I Refur to Cap' Prebles Deposition—and further Saith Not

The Dates are as Near as I can Recollect

John Tilley

Boston May 28th 1784—

Suffolk Ss.

Boston May 29th 1784.

The above named John Tilley personally appearing and being carefully examin'd & cautioned to testify the whole truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the Forewritten deposition by him subscribed, taken at the request of John Curtis, to be used in an Action of trespass, to be heard & tried at the Supreme judicial Court, next to be held at Falmouth for the County of Cumberland & Lincoln, wherein said Curtis is Appellant and Phillip Hotchkiss is Appellee—The Deponent being bound to Sea is the cause of taking this Deposition, & the adverse party living more than twenty miles from the place of Caption, was not notified nor present at the taking thereof,

Before me,

Edm. Quincy J^r pacis.

June Term at Falmouth 1784

Opened in Court—

A^{tt}

Jn^r Tucker Cle^r

Deposition of Will^m Lithgow Jun^r.

This may certify that Cap^t John Curtis employed me to take care of a cause in which himself and another Person were Defendents and one Philip Hodskins was Plt.—this was an Action of Trespass for breaking and entering the Plt^r house and taking his property—that the said Curtis

being then in the State Service and obliged to go to sea I got the cause continued one term—That at the next term I suffered the Deft^a to be defaulted, which was occasioned by my not hearing from the said Curtis after the cause was continued as aforesaid; this circumstance happened as I afterwards understood from M^r Frothingham of Falmouth by the miscarriage of a Letter which the said Curtis wrote to me upon the subject of the suit aforesaid and which I verily believe was in fact the case—That finding the Jury had given the enormous Sum of £200—damages and Costs of Suit I thought it my duty to appeal the cause to the supreme Court though by the default the facts alledged in the Plt^a declaration were confessed and though it was doubtful whether the Deft^a from the same circumstance could have any day in the supreme Court to attempt even a mitigation of damages—That the said Curtis upon his return from sea expressed great concern at what had happened by the miscarriage of his Letter, and came prepared to do the best that might be done at the supreme Court under the Circumstances abovementioned—that the said Curtis asked his Council who were M^r King and myself whether it would be worth while for him to attend Court himself as he was then bound to Boston in a Vessell which was ready to sail, and was informed that he would not be wanted at Court, upon which information he went off and unfortunately carried with him the Copy of the case so that the cause was again defaulted—

Will^m Lithgow Jun^r

Deposition of John Augusta Dunn.

I John Augusta Dunn of the Town of Boston Mariner of Lawfull Age Do Testify and Declare that on the 3rd Day of January, In the year 1782 Being then Commander of the Armed Sloop Lively—we fell In with an Arm'd Schooner

Comm^d By Cap^t Curtis Being then at Pasemaquoddy In the Bay of fundy on a Cruize Against the Enemy's of the United States — S^d Curtis Inform^d us he had taken a Certain Hodgskins In a Small Vessell Bound to S^t Johns who had Passengers on Board Bound to S^t John^a that he had Sett his passengers on Shore and Run Back to Mount Desert with his Vessell Contrary to the Law of Nations and that he was Determined to Call on him on his Going home and Carry him to Boston he having on Board W I Goods &c for the Enemy — We then Proceeded toward's Boston and on the 9th Day of Jan^r In the Year 1782 Arrived at Mount Desert where Cap^t Curtis Sent his Officers on Shore in his Boat to Bring Hodgskins on Board with the Articles Before Captur^d and Carry him to Boston Not finding him they Bro^t on Board of Cap^t Curtis's Schooner as follows 3 B^l New England Rum=2 B^l Brown Sugar=2 Sides upper Leather =About 20 ^{lb} Coffee=and about 12 ^{lb} Tobacco — a part of which was Made use of on the Board the Vessell — which was then In Great want of I Solemnly Declare these were all the Articles Bro^t on Board of Cap^t Curtis's Vessell to my Knowledge. Cap^t John Preble of Passamaquoddy Parol'd Said Prisoners after Hodgskins or his People Sett them on Shore — the Particulars of their Information Concerning Hodgskins I Refer to Cap^t Prebles own Deposition and further Saith Not — The Dates as Near as I Can Recollect

Jn^o Aug^a Dunn

Boston May 28th 1784 —

Suffolk Ss. Boston May 28th 1784.

The above named Jn^o Aug^a Dunn personally appearing, & being carefully examined & cautioned to testify the whole truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the Forewritten Deposition by him subscribed, taken at the request of Cap^t John Curtis; to be used in an Action of Trespass, to be

heard & tried at the supreme judicial Court, next to be held at Falmouth for y^e County of Cumberland & Lincoln: wherein s^d John Curtis is Appellant & Phillip Hotchkiss is appellee—The Deponent being bound to sea is the Cause of taking this deposition; and the Adverse party living more than twenty miles from y^e place of Caption, was not notified, nor present at the taking thereof—

Before me,

Edm. Quincy J^r pacis.

Deposition of William Downe.

I William Downe of Boston, in the County of Suffolk Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Mariner, do hereby Testify & declare—that I was Master of the Schooner Privateer Reprizal whereof John Curtis was Commander that on the Twenty Eighth day of December: 1781—being at an Anchor at a Place called the Narrows near Passamaquody we saw a small schooner under sail standing toward us, to the Eastward—it being light winds & the tide almost spent Cap^t Curtis orderd me, to take the Boat & a Crew & go on board said Schooner & see who they were—I took the Boat & proceeded on board, & upon enquiry, was told they were from Frenchman's Bay & was commanded by one Hotchkiss, or some such name—& produced a certificate from a number of Persons living at said Place, calling themselves, Selectmen, or, Committee of Correspondence or some such office, permitting him the said Master to go to Passamaquody to trade—The Master of the Schooner seem'd very much confus'd & upon my asking him, if those persons who signd his Pass, were not some who had taken the Oath of Allegiance to the King of Great Britain & had Acknowledged themselves to be his Subjects; he seem'd very much at a loss & said he could not tell, tho it was well known they had—as the Tide made

out, it was impossible for us to get the Schooner to wher the Privateer lay, I order'd him to come to Anchor & when the Tide made to get under way & anchor alongside the Privateer for further Inspection, telling him that if he were bound no further than Passamaquody, & could make it appear, Nothing would be done to him or his Vessell—I then went on board and Acquainted Cap^t Curtis, & receiv'd his orders to go back, & bring the Schooner alongside, when just as I was pushing of from alongside the Privateer, we observ'd the Schooner to bear away before the Wind & stand to the westward, I then row'd after them but was not able to overtake them the Next day we got under way with the Privateer & went to the Eastward, as far as Campo Bello Island, where we Anchor'd, & Cap^t Curtis & myself went on Shore to M^r Currie's, when I went into the house I saw some men sitting by the fire, which I thought look'd like some of the men that I saw on board of the little Schooner, upon which I told Cap^t Curtis, & upon Interrogating them they said they were on board—I asked them where they belonged, they told me to the River S^t Johns one of them was call'd Kimball & the other Cobin I asked them, where they came from & where the schooner was bound, & where they left the said Schooner, in Answer to these & some other Questions asked them, they said, that M^r Hotchkiss had been down to the River S^t Johns, trading—(tho' it was an Enemys Country, & contrary to the law of the Country) & that for a Certain Quantity of Beaver the said Hotchkiss or Hodgkins (the Master of the Schooner) agreed to Carry them to Newbury Port in Mass^a Government, & bring them back to the River S^t Johns, that they had been at Newbury & other Parts of the Country in a Private manner without permission from the legislature & were then upon there Return to S^t Johns in said Schooner when I went on board of her—that after I went from the Schooner to go on board the Privateer Hodgkins told them, that if they